

Independent Development Evaluation

at the African Development Bank



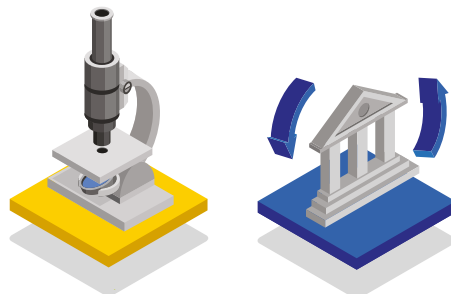
IDEV

Independent Development Evaluation
African Development Bank

WHO ARE WE AND WHAT DO WE DO ?

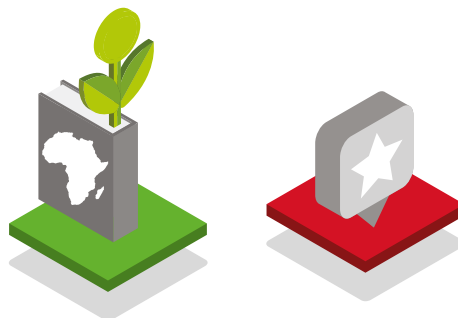
Independent Development Evaluation (IDEV) at the African Development Bank (AfDB or “the Bank”) is an independent unit tasked with enhancing the development effectiveness of the Bank. By conducting evaluations and proactively sharing good practices, we ensure that the Bank and its stakeholders learn from experience to plan and deliver development results to the highest possible standards.

We evaluate to see what works, what does not, and why. We conduct various types of evaluations, drawing lessons learned and making recommendations through careful, impartial and credible analysis.



We keep the Bank accountable. Independent evaluations provide a basis for accountability to key stakeholders including citizens, governments, funders and partners, by evaluating and documenting the impact of the Bank’s activities.

We promote an evaluation culture. We work with African governments, parliaments, evaluation networks and partners to build evaluation capacities and encourage processes of learning and continuous improvement in African countries and institutions, as well as within the AfDB.



We help achieve better results. The findings of our evaluations are shared, discussed, and used by the Bank to improve the design and implementation of its policies, strategies, processes and operations.

WHAT KIND OF EVALUATIONS DO WE CARRY OUT ?

Independent Development Evaluation conducts a wide range of evaluations that respond to the need for evaluative knowledge and that provide relevant and useful lessons, recommendations and good practices for policy, strategy, processes and operations.

We aim for our evaluations to consistently be of high quality, timely, and relevant. We set the bar very high, particularly for the credibility and quality of our evaluations. Our standards and practices are in line with the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)-Development Assistance Committee quality standards, the Evaluation Cooperation Group guidelines, and good practices at other multilateral development banks and institutions.

IDEV EVALUATIONS

Sector evaluations

Sector evaluations examine the Bank's support to a certain sector over a specific period of time. They are a central feature of our knowledge production, providing oversight and evidence for decision-making.

Evaluation syntheses

Evaluation syntheses and systematic reviews present knowledge and draw together key lessons from a variety of existing sources in a useful way. They play a central role in learning.

Impact evaluations

Impact evaluations aim to attribute development results to a specific intervention, making the link between cause and effect.

Thematic evaluations

Thematic evaluations focus on a specific topic or theme (e.g. SMEs, value chains, gender) and are a central feature of the Bank's knowledge output.

Project Completion Report evaluations (public sector)

These evaluations validate Project Completion Reports of public sector projects carried out by operations departments of the Bank, and synthesize the lessons learned.

Project cluster evaluations

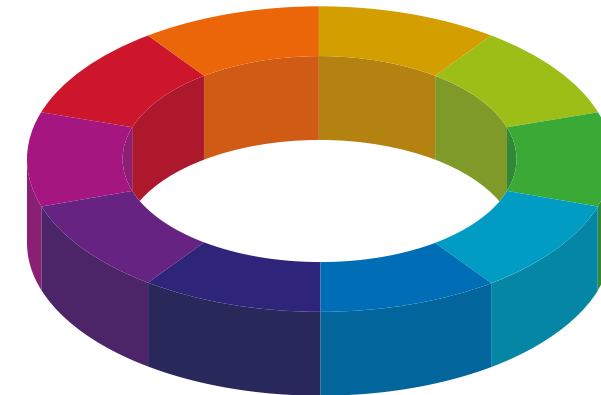
Cluster evaluations look at a group of similar or related interventions within a sector or theme in order to extract broader lessons across a number of interventions. They are focused on learning and do not make recommendations.

Extended Supervision Report evaluations (private sector)

Just like public sector project evaluations, the majority of private sector project evaluations are the validations of Bank self-evaluation reports. For private sector projects these are called Extended Supervision Reports.

Corporate evaluations

Corporate evaluations aim to improve organizational effectiveness, which is crucial for development effectiveness. Corporate evaluations examine the Bank's corporate policies, strategies, systems and processes.



Regional integration strategy evaluations

The evaluations of regional integration strategies contribute to the Bank's High 5 priority of Integrating Africa. These evaluations inform the design and implementation of future regional integration strategies.

Country strategy and program evaluations

Country-level evaluations inform the Bank and hold it accountable for its performance and the results achieved within that country over a period of time, and are tailored to inform the design of new Country Strategy Papers (CSPs) based on the findings and lessons learned. The category also includes mid-term evaluations (formative evaluations designed to inform implementation of a program midway through) and CSP Completion Report Validation Notes (independent validations of the Bank's self-assessments of country program performance).

HOW DO OUR EVALUATIONS IMPACT THE WORK OF THE AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK?

Our work does not end once we have carried out an evaluation. We present all our evaluations to the Committee on Operations and Development Effectiveness (CODE) of the AfDB Board of Directors. The Management of the Bank presents its response at the same time, and sets out how it intends to implement IDEV's recommendations. It commits to concrete actions, which are subsequently tracked through an action reporting mechanism called the Management Action Record System (MARS). We publish all our evaluations on our website, distribute electronic and physical copies throughout the Bank and beyond, organize dissemination events, and capture all findings, lessons and recommendations in a searchable public database, the IDEV Evaluation Results Database (EVRD). This all ensures that our evaluations are taken on board and used to improve the effectiveness and quality of the Bank's policies, strategies and operations. Our evaluations are instrumental to future planning, programming designs, and decision-making. In addition to informing the Bank of its development effectiveness, we ensure that key policy-makers and stakeholders in African countries are aware of evaluative information and lessons learned.

Quality, timeliness and
relevance of evaluations



Effective dissemination,
knowledge management, and
action reporting mechanism

Impact on the policies, strategies,
projects and processes
of the African Development Bank

HOW ARE WE INDEPENDENT ?

We are an independent function, offering objective feedback on how the Bank is performing. Our independence is laid down in the Bank's Independent Evaluation Policy. Several mechanisms ensure the independence of our function and our work:

Independence of our evaluators: Our evaluators are not controlled or influenced by the staff or decision-makers responsible for the activities being evaluated, and have unencumbered access to all the information they need. The findings of the evaluations and their publication are also protected from any influence or pressure.

Organizational independence: Independent Development Evaluation reports directly to the Bank's Board of Directors through CODE. The Board approves our three-year work program and budget, and receives all evaluations.

Administrative independence: The Evaluator General has authority over the implementation of our work plan, the conduct and content of evaluations and their publication, and the use of our budget, and takes full responsibility for personnel management. The Evaluator General is protected from pressure or influence by the Bank's Management, and the Board of Directors leads his or her appointment and removal.

HOW DO WE CONTRIBUTE TO DEVELOPMENT EVALUATION IN AFRICA?

As a recognized center of excellence for development evaluation in Africa, Independent Development Evaluation advocates for robust evaluation practices on the continent. We contribute to various initiatives that foster evidence-based policy-making and a culture of evaluation in governments, parliaments and development institutions.

Publications and outreach

As part of our efforts to communicate our work, share knowledge and foster a culture of evaluation in Africa, we publish all our evaluation reports, complemented by knowledge products such as evaluation briefs and highlights. We also publish a quarterly magazine called eVALUation Matters, an Annual Report, and various ad hoc publications. These are all available on our website <http://idev.afdb.org/>.

All of the lessons learnt and recommendations from our evaluations are available in our searchable online evaluation results database, available at <https://evrd.afdb.org/>.

We regularly hold webinars and other knowledge events as part of our efforts to disseminate knowledge, contribute to discussions on current topics, and participate in the global evaluation community.

Our flagship biennial event, AfDB Development Evaluation Week, attracts participants from evaluation offices and associations, governments and parliaments, civil society, bilateral and multilateral development institutions, and the private sector. The event centers around development evaluation in Africa and focuses on specific topics relevant to Africa's development agenda.

Evaluation capacity development

We actively support the improvement of evaluation capacity and the development of an evaluation culture both in the Bank and in African countries, through knowledge sharing, events, webinars, communities of practice, trainings, peer-to-peer learning, and participating in evaluation networks with our partner institutions. While our efforts in promoting an evaluation culture stimulate the demand for evaluations, we also support the supply of evaluative knowledge and expertise through capacity building initiatives and partnerships.

AFRICAN PARLIAMENTARIANS' NETWORK ON DEVELOPMENT EVALUATION (APNODE)

IDEV supports and hosts the secretariat of APNODE, a forum for parliamentarians in Africa to make use of and advocate for development evaluation.

EVALUATION PLATFORM FOR REGIONAL AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTIONS (EPRADI)

IDEV is a founder of EPRADI, which was established in 2014 to harmonize evaluation methods and practices among sub-regional development institutions in Africa.

EVAL PARTNERS

IDEV is a Key Partner of EvalPartners and serves on its Executive Committee as well as the Management Team guiding the development of EvalPartners' Strategic Plan 2023-2030.

TWENDE MBELE

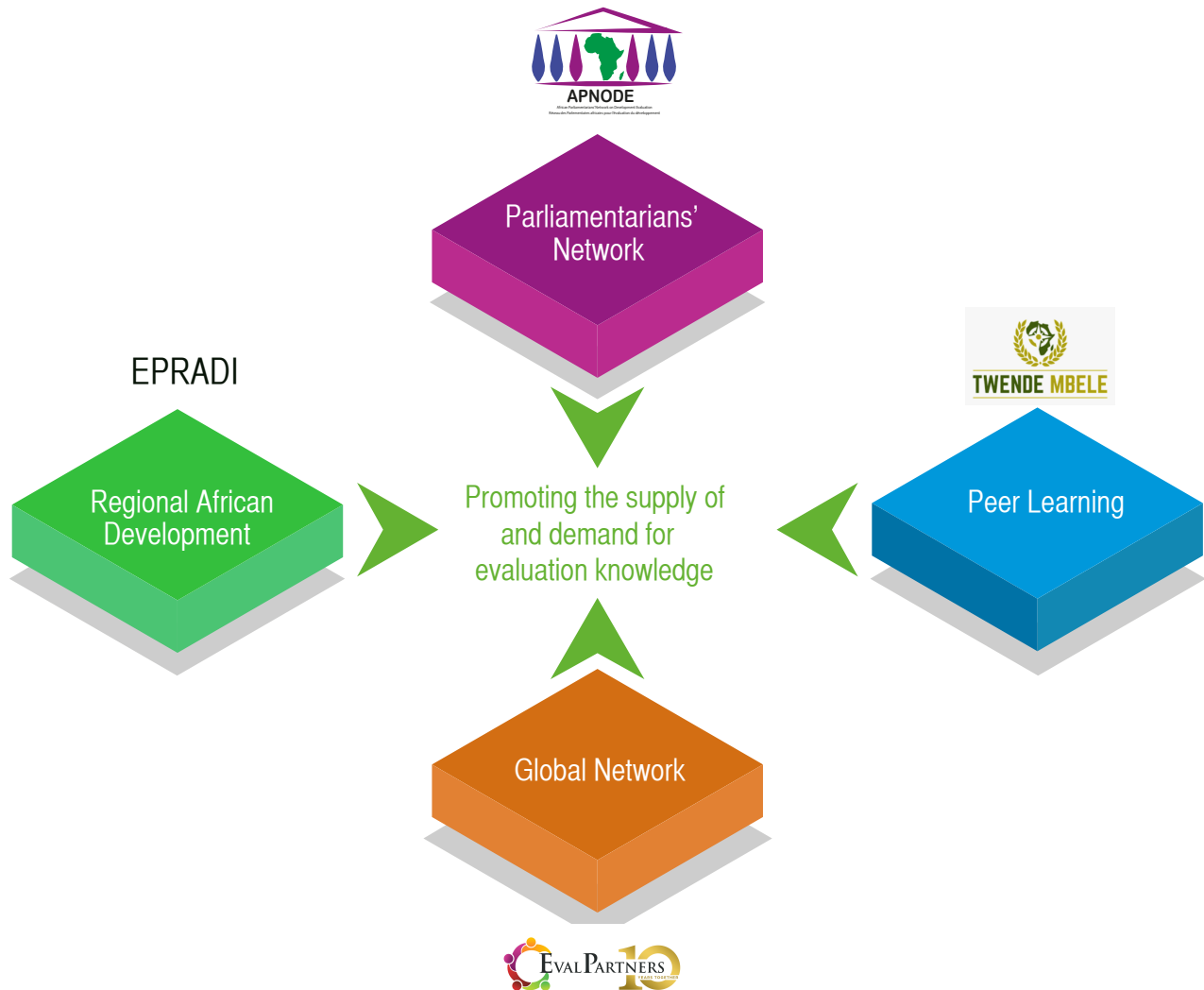
IDEV is one of the technical partners of Twende Mbele, a South-South peer learning partnership in which countries collaborate on developing and implementing M&E systems that improve government performance and accountability to citizens.

International collaboration

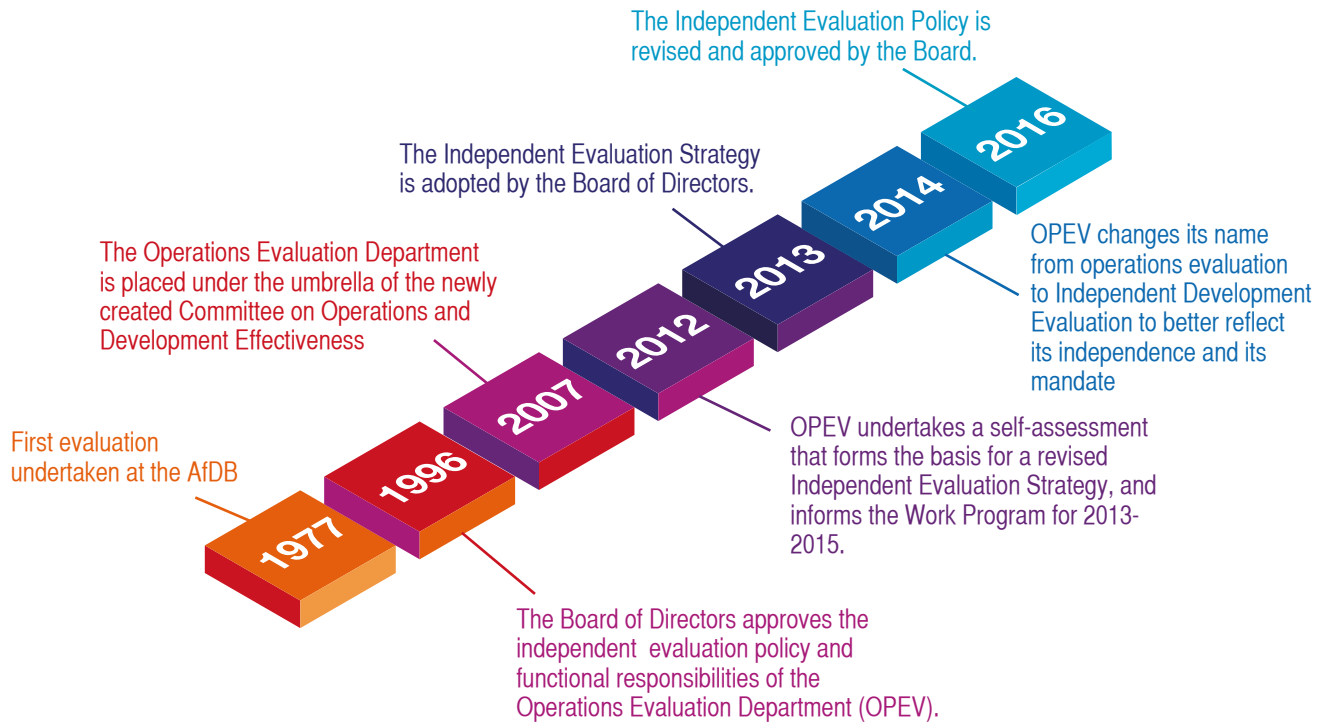
We are an active member of the OECD-DAC Evaluation Network and of the Evaluation Cooperation Group (ECG), which comprises the evaluation functions of the international financial institutions. The ECG provides a forum for sharing evaluation experiences and methods, coordinating activities, and developing good practice standards and guidance.

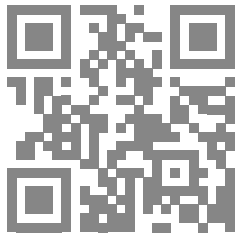
We have built strong relationships and work closely with the Independent Evaluation Offices of partner organizations such as the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the International Monetary Fund, the Global Environment Facility, the United Nations Development Programme, UN Women, the Inter-American Development Bank, the Asian Development Bank, the Islamic Development Bank, and the World Bank, as well as centers of expertise such as the Centers for Learning on Evaluation and Results (CLEAR). These partnerships help us improve the quality of our evaluations and capacity development work while providing a platform to share lessons learned and recommendations for better development effectiveness across institutions.

Promoting an Evaluation Culture



EVALUATION MILESTONES AT THE AfDB





idev.afdb.org



Recent evaluations



evrd.afdb.org

Evaluation Results Database:
Access the Bank's self and independent evaluation reports.
Find lessons learned and recommendations from evaluations
using keywords, sectors, themes, countries and report types
<https://evrd.afdb.org/>

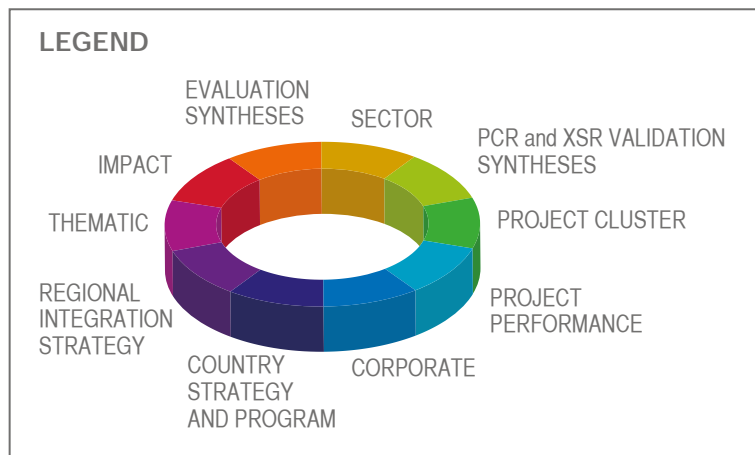
Independent Development Evaluation

at the African Development Bank

A SELECTION OF RECENT IDEV EVALUATIONS



A SELECTION OF RECENT IDEV EVALUATIONS



Agriculture and agro-industry

- Evaluation Synthesis of Support for Agriculture and Agribusiness Growth and Productivity 2024
- Evaluation of the AfDB's Technology for African Agriculture Transformation (TAAT) Program Phase 1 2023
- Evaluation of small-scale irrigation projects in Malawi 2020

Climate change

- Evaluation of Mainstreaming Green Growth and Climate Change into the AfDB's Interventions 2021
- Evaluation of Mainstreaming Green Growth and Climate Change into the AfDB's Interventions: Energy and Transport Cluster 2021

Financial management, debt burden, fragility and building resilience

- Evaluation of Public Financial Management 2024
- Evaluation of the Public Finance Modernization Project in D.R.Congo 2024
- Evaluation of the AfDB's Transition Support Facility 2022
- Evaluation of the AfDB Non-Concessional Debt Accumulation Policy 2021
- Evaluation of the African Development Bank Group's strategy for addressing fragility and building resilience in Africa 2020

Energy and power

- Evaluation of the AfDB's Support for Renewable Energy 2023
- Evaluation of the Kenya Last Mile Connectivity Project, Phase 1 2022
- Evaluation of the AfDB's Support to the Energy Sector in Africa 2020
- Evaluation of AfDB Program Based Operations: Energy Governance Cluster 2019

Private sector, PPP and access to finance

- Evaluation of the AfDB's Implementation of its Non-Sovereign Operations 2020
- Evaluation of the AfDB's Private Sector Development Strategy 2020
- Evaluation of the Bank's Role in Increasing Access to Finance in Africa 2020
- Evaluation of the Bank's Utilization of the Public Private Partnership Mechanism 2019
- Evaluation of AfDB Program Based Operations: Private Sector Enabling Environment Cluster 2019

Processes, tools, policies and strategies of the AfDB

●	Evaluation of Counterpart Funding at the AfDB	2024
●	Mid-term Evaluation of the AfDB Policy on Results Based Financing	2024
●	Evaluation of the AfDB's Economic and Sector Work, Phase 2	2024
●	Evaluation of the AfDB's Support to its Regional Member Countries in Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic	2022
●	Evaluation of the AfDB's Ten Year Strategy	2022
●	Evaluation of the AfDB's Engagement with Civil Society	2021
●	Evaluation of the AfDB Results Measurement Framework - mid term	2021
●	Evaluation of the Ex-Ante Additionality and Development Outcome Assessment	2021
●	Evaluation of the AfDB's Country Portfolio Review and Restructuring Policy	2021
●	Evaluation of the Bank's Integrated Safeguards System	2019

Social Sectors

●	Impact Evaluation of the AfDB-funded Support to the Maternal Mortality Reduction Project in Tanzania	2024
●	Mid-term Evaluation of the AfDB's Jobs for Youth in Africa Strategy	2023
●	Evaluation Synthesis on Promoting Inclusive Growth	2023
●	Evaluation Synthesis on Gender Mainstreaming at the AfDB	2020

Transport

- Evaluation of AfDB road and port projects 2021
- Evaluation of the Ghana Fufulso-Sawla Road Project 2020

Regional and Country Strategies

- Angola
- Benin
- Djibouti
- Egypt
- Gabon
- Kenya
- Liberia
- Mali
- Mauritania
- Namibia
- Sao Tome and Principe
- Sierra Leone
- Tanzania
- Uganda
- West Africa



IDEV

Independent Development Evaluation
African Development Bank



AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK GROUP

Contact us

Independent Development Evaluation
African Development Bank
Avenue Joseph Anoma
01 BP 1387 Abidjan 01
Côte d'Ivoire

Tel.: +225 2026 2841
idevhelpdesk@afdb.org
[@evaluationafdb](https://www.evaluationafdb.org)
idev.afdb.org