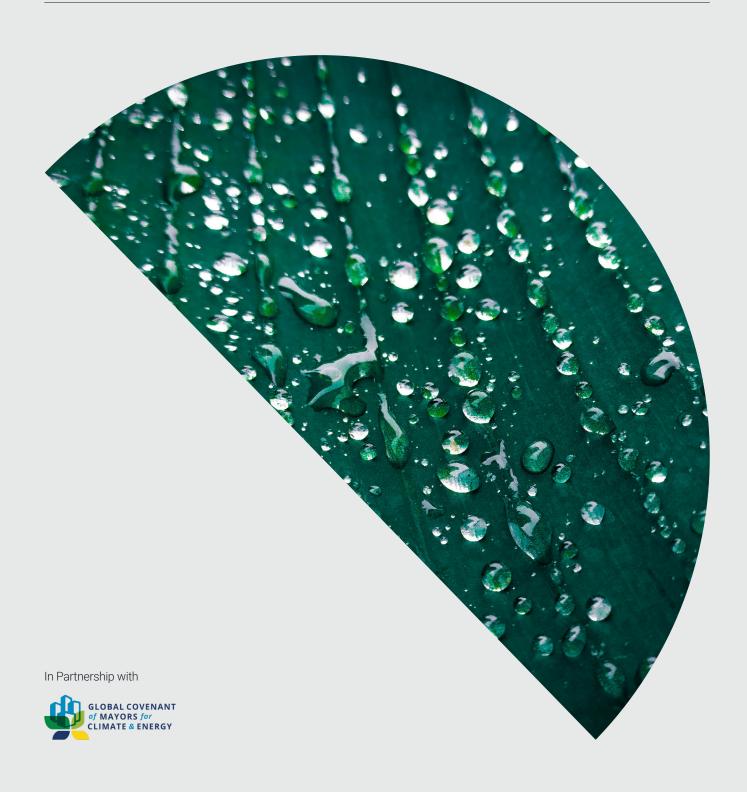


CHAMP Country Case Studies

# West Africa





## West Africa

West Africa confronts a mounting climate crisis as extreme weather intensifies across the region's diverse economies. The 2022 floods in Nigeria stand as a stark example, marking the largest disaster displacement Sub-Saharan Africa in the last decade. Côte d'Ivoire, the world's top cocoa producer, faces critically low production from disruptive weather conditions, while Ghana expects drought damages will triple to over US \$325 million annually by mid-century. Coastal vulnerability links all three nations, with much of their population settled in zones threatened by rising seas and intensifying storms.

Fiscal pressures compound physical risks. Implementing Africa's NDCs will cost approximately US\$2.8 trillion between 2020-2030, yet the continent received less than 3% of total global climate finance dedicated to developing countries in 2021/2022. Only 36% of this finance went to adaptation despite less than 4% of global emissions coming from the region. In West Africa climate finance during 2013-2019 totaled US\$11.7 billion, covering just 13% of countries' stated NDC needs.

Despite these constraints, the region shows clear leadership on the development and implementation of financing strategies, such as Nigeria's use of <u>Sukuk</u> bonds and Ghana's <u>climate budget tagging</u>. Renewable energy expansion also offers dual benefits of emissions reductions and expanded electricity access, though <u>fossil fuel dependencies</u> and constrained government budgets persist.

Closing the finance gap will require continued financial and fiscal innovation that aligns with the needs of rapidly urbanizing communities. African cities are growing faster than those in any other region, creating opportunities to achieve sustainable development along with infrastructural resilience.

Moving beyond isolated projects to institutionalized, multi-level governance models is essential. Through initiatives like <u>ICLEI Africa</u>, <u>Covenant of Mayors in Sub-Saharan Africa</u>, and <u>Coalition for High Ambition Multilevel Partnerships (CHAMP)</u>, local governments are advancing climate action and elevating urban climate leadership on the global stage.

# Between 2013-2019 West African countries received just 13% of the finance needed to implement their NDCs





## Country Case: Ghana

Ghana has made significant progress on development goals in the last decades, but requires continued investment into physical and social infrastructure and economic diversification to bridge worsening climate challenges.

Ghana's climate challenges manifest through increasingly erratic rainfall, extended northern droughts, urban flooding, and accelerating coastal erosion. Temperatures will also climb 0.9°C by 2040, while coastal seas rise 16.5 cm by 2050. A quarter of Ghanaians live in coastal cities like Accra where flooding and storm surge pose constant threats.

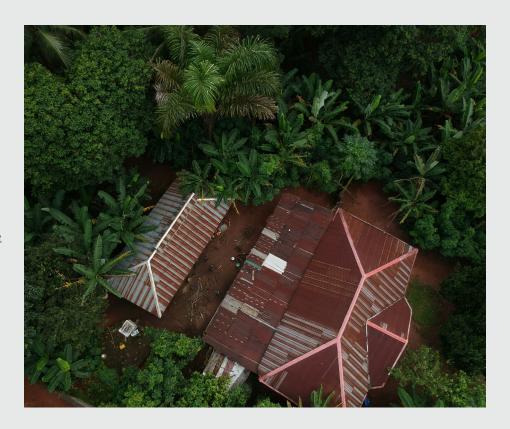
Economic constraints present major obstacles. Annual climate finance of U\$\$830 million covers under 10% of the U\$\$9.3-15.5 billion needed each year and the national government struggles with significant debt servicing fees. Meanwhile, agriculture, forestry, and fisheries, which provide 20% of GDP and employ a third of workers, face severe pressure as maize yields drop and drought losses could reach U\$\$325 million yearly under pessimistic scenarios.

Ghana's NDC from 2021 sets a 12% unconditional emissions cut and 45% conditional reduction by 2030, contingent on US\$15.5 billion in external backing.<sup>7</sup> However, renewable energy generation has fallen since the 1990s, now accounting for less than 40% of generation compared to more than 80% in the early 1990s.

In terms of adaptation, the NDC focuses on climate-smart agriculture, strengthening water management, building coastal defenses, and upgrading urban flood systems. The country has also established a National Climate Change Adaptation Strategy. However urban content in the NDC is classified as "moderate" by UN Habitat, suggesting that cities have a greater role to play in national efforts.

There is a significant need to diversify and expand climate finance flows. The national government is the leading source of climate finance in the country and introduced climate budget tagging to ensure budget decisions align with climate priorities. Multilateral Development Funds offering grants and concessionary loans were the next largest source of finance. However, these resources alone are ill-equipped to match the country's long-term needs, which will require greater private-sector investment at affordable rates.

Ghana experiences increasingly erratic rainfall, extended northern droughts, urban flooding, and accelerating coastal erosion



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Latest NDC submission as of October 9, 2025.



#### Insights from CDP-ICLEI Track

Accra, Cape Coast Metropolitan Assembly, and Sekondi-Takoradi Metropolitan Assembly reported to CDP-ICLEI Track in 2024, representing 2.5 million (roughly 12% of Ghana's urban population). All three cities have completed climate risk and vulnerability assessments and established adaptation goals.

However, capacity diverges between municipalities. Accra and Sekondi-Takoradi have developed climate action plans (CAPs), completed jurisdiction-wide emissions inventories, and set active greenhouse gas reduction targets.<sup>8</sup> Cape Coast, by contrast, is still developing its CAP and has not undertaken emissions inventories or target-setting, citing insufficient financial capacity. This disparity underscores the resource constraints limiting comprehensive climate planning across Ghana's cities and the need for targeted financial and technical support to build municipal capacity.

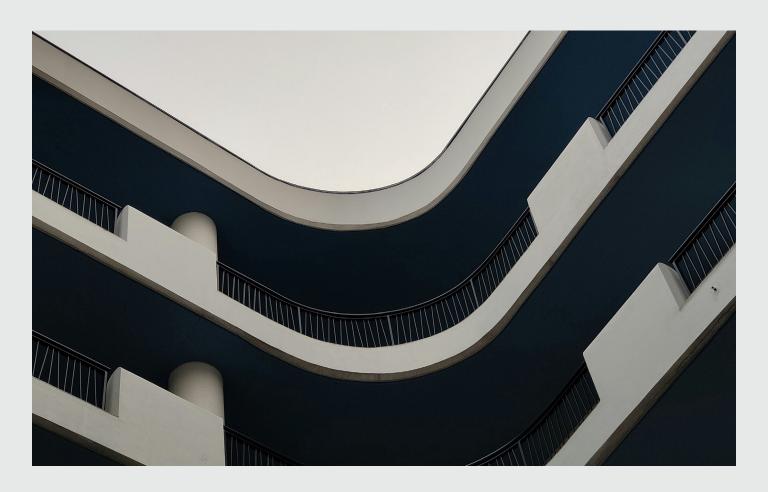
Interjurisdictional collaboration is present across reporting cities. Both Accra and Cape Coast engage with the national government on climate action planning, facilitating information sharing and integration of local priorities into the country's NDC.

3

cities disclosed to CDP-ICLEI Track in 2024 **F** 

12% 👸

of the urban population represented (roughly 2.5 million residents)



<sup>8</sup> An active emissions target is one that covers key emissions areas and at least the entire jurisdiction.



#### Spotlight on projects

Accra, Cape Coast Metropolitan Assembly, and Sekondi-Takoradi Metropolitan Assembly reported six climate projects seeking US\$104.1 million in investment. They reported two projects in nature-based solutions, biodiversity and urban green space, and two in water management, however details for these initiatives were not disclosed.

Accra reported one transport project seeking US\$55.3 million and one waste management project seeking US\$48.8 million.

The project pipeline remains in early stages, with five of six projects still in early development. This highlights significant opportunities for technical assistance and capacity building to advance project readiness and unlock climate finance for municipal priorities.

\$104.1m

in investment is being sought for six climate projects



#### Accra

### Development of large-scale compost plant

As Accra prepares to implement a city-wide source separation program, this project will increase the city's composting capacity to approximately 600 metric tons per day.



#### Accra

#### **Inclusive Transport Transformation**

This project was devised to improve mobility in metropolitan areas through a combination of traffic engineering measures, management improvements, regulation of the public transport industry, and implementation of a Bus Rapid Transport (BRT) system.





# Country Case: Côte d'Ivoire

Côte d'Ivoire is one of the <u>fastest</u> growing economies in West Africa, achieving significant development gains, however its agricultural exports and coastal communities are highly exposed to climate hazards, which risk undermining its economic growth.

Côte d'Ivoire experiences severe tropical storms bringing heavier rainfall, flooding events, coastal erosion, extreme heat, and rising sea levels. Meanwhile, nearly 7.5 million people (30% of the population) inhabit coastal plains where 80% of economic activity is concentrated and two-thirds of shoreline is eroding.

Climate damages may reach US\$1.3 billion by 2040, impacting agriculture, human capital, and infrastructure. Agriculture employs 45% of the working population and contributes 16.7% of the GDP, but cocoa is already showing 20% yield declines during El Niño periods.

The country also faces biodiversity challenges, having lost more than 80% of its natural forests over the last 50 years in part due to agricultural practices, directly impacting ecosystem services and climate resilience. The country currently ranks 134th on ND-GAIN index out of 180 countries, signaling significant vulnerability to climate change.

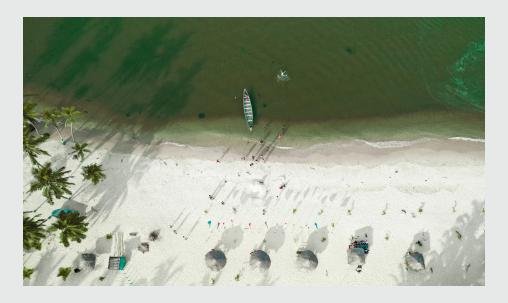
The country remains dependent on high-emission sources for on-grid and off-grid energy. Natural gas produces 69% of Côte d'Ivoire's electricity due to a shift away from coal, but biofuels and oil still dominate total energy use, mainly for home cooking. Modern renewables, primarily hydropower and solar, contribute to just 8.6% of energy consumption and have been decreasing since 2000. This downward trajectory is troubling given the country's target of 45% renewable energy by 2030.

The country has an ambitious NDC that highlights a clear demand for external financing. The country's 2022 NDC aims for 30% unconditional and 99% conditional emissions reductions by 2030, requiring US\$22 billion split between US\$12 billion

for adaptation and US\$10 billion for mitigation. Adaptation centers on water and coastal infrastructure, capacity building, and reducing water collection burdens falling on women and girls (90% of collectors). Mitigation emphasizes clean cooking, solar and hydro expansion, electric vehicles, and extensive reforestation.

Côte d'Ivoire is working closely with multilateral financial institutions to advance subnational climate action. Its <u>Sustainability-Linked</u> <u>Finance Framework</u> directly ties loan interest rates to climate target achievement, the country is working closely with the <u>IMF</u> to identify opportunities to de-risk private investment, and it has successfully mobilized US\$2.4 billion for public expenditure through the issuance of ESG bonds.

# Climate damages may reach US\$1.3 billion by 2040, impacting agriculture, human capital, and infrastructure



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Latest NDC submission as of October 9, 2025.



#### Insights from CDP-ICLEI Track

Abidjan and Commune de Cocody reported to CDP-ICLEI Track in 2024, representing 6.8 million residents, approximately 42% of Côte d'Ivoire's urban population.

Both cities demonstrate comprehensive climate planning. Each has completed climate risk and vulnerability assessments, established adaptation goals, and developed CAPs. On the mitigation side, both cities have jurisdiction-wide emissions inventories and active greenhouse gas reduction targets. This reflects institutional commitment and capacity within Côte d'Ivoire's largest urban areas,

positioning them as potential models for climate action to smaller municipalities nationwide.

Interjurisdictional collaboration is evident in both reporting cities. Abidjan and Commune de Cocody engage with the national government on climate action planning, with Commune de Cocody also coordinating on climate risk and vulnerability assessments. This engagement encompasses information sharing, progress tracking, and integration of municipal components into the country's NDC.

2



Ivorian cities publicly disclosed to CDP-ICLEI Track in 2024

42%



of the country's urban population represented (6.8 million residents)





#### Spotlight on projects

Two Ivorian cities reported 16 climate projects seeking US\$2.4 billion in investment. Transport was the largest sector, followed by waste management, and nature-based solutions, biodiversity, and urban green spaces.

Mitigation projects outnumber adaptation initiatives, with nine mitigation projects compared to five focused on adaptation. The project pipeline remains in early stages, with 13 projects still in the early stages of development. This highlights substantial opportunities for project preparation support and financial partnerships to help cities move climate initiatives from planning to implementation.

Ivorian cities disclosed 16 climate projects



😭 \$2.4bn

in investment is being sought for these climate projects

#### Most common project sectors

Transport

5 projects seeking US\$591 million

Waste management

3 projects seeking US\$205 million

Nature-based solutions, biodiversity and urban green spaces

#### Abidjan

#### Development of 150 km of pedestrian and cycle paths

This project will develop 150 km of road for bicycles and pedestrians for urban mobility and sustainable development.

#### Development status

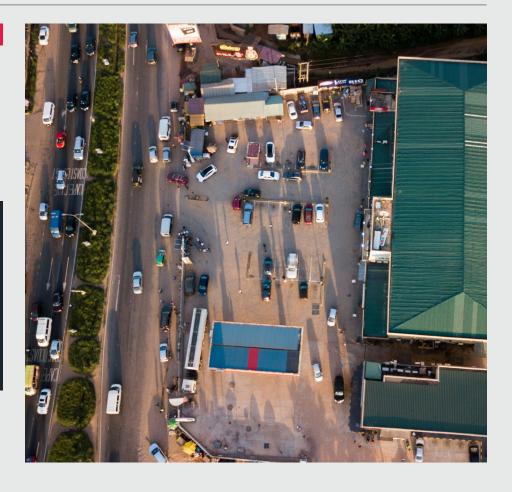
Pre-feasibility/impact assessment

#### Financing status

Project not funded and seeking full funding

Project size (US\$)

10 million < 50 million





#### Abidjan

### Implementation of Circular Channels for Dry Waste Management

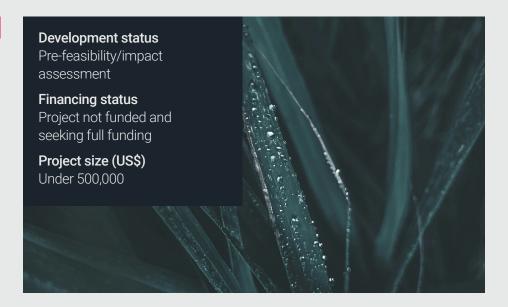
The objective of the project is to create standard frameworks to implement dry waste collection, recovery, and reuse of channels that are identified. The project will also include a capacity building program for waste management stakeholders and a consumer awareness program.



#### Commune de Cocody

#### From Cassava Processing to Improving the Environment of Cocody Villages

This project aims to make the processing of cassava into local food, Attiéké, more ecological, and to create sustainable jobs for young people and women by preserving the environment while developing income-generating activities that boost the local economy.



#### Commune de Cocody

#### **Restoration of Mangrove Trees**

This project restores mangrove forests in Cocody's lagoon villages, enhancing climate mitigation and community resilience. Mangroves trap CO2, reduce pollution, and create recreational spaces. Lagoon bank restoration with beaches will decrease coastal erosion, eutrophication, and pollution while improving aquatic habitat.

Community programs will educate residents about mangroves' role in carbon sequestration, water purification, and marine biodiversity. The initiative creates thousands of green jobs through lagoon maintenance and sanitation. 50 beaches, 100 fishponds, 100 poultry farms, and 100 agricultural plots will be created in coastal villages for organic gardening and sustainable urban family farming opportunities.

**Development status**Project feasibility

**Financing status**Project not funded and seeking full funding

Project size (US\$)
Unknown



# Country Case: Nigeria

Nigeria has a highly diverse geography, making it vulnerable to a variety of significant climate hazards, while also facing pressure to transition away from a fossil fuel based economy.

Nigerian cities reporting to CDP-ICLEI Track identified heavy precipitation, urban and coastal flooding, biodiversity loss, and extreme heat as major climate-related hazards in 2024. This is evidenced by recent disasters, as 2022 floods hit 34 states, displacing 2.4 million people with US \$6.7 billion in losses—Sub-Saharan Africa's worst disaster displacement in a decade. Mean temperatures could rise by between 1.8 to 3.9°C until 2080 compared to preindustrial levels, worsening northern desertification, while the Niger Delta could endure over 4 meters of annual rainfall alongside rising sea levels. Vulnerability far outpaces readiness, reflected in a ranking of 157th out of 180 countries on the ND-GAIN index of climate vulnerability.

Oil and gas extraction shape the nation, accounting for 31% of federal revenue and 90% of foreign exchange. Oil accounts for 38% of energy use and 67% of energy emissions, with production set to double by 2030. Meanwhile, just 60% of Nigerians have electricity, driving demand for infrastructure investments and off-grid energy.

Nigeria faces significant economic challenges. Debt servicing consumes over 80% of government revenue and the country received less than 10% of total climate finance needs between 2021 and 2022. Ending US\$9.3 billion in fuel subsidies in 2023 hit poor households hardest without freeing resources for climate work. Yet Nigeria runs one of Africa's leading green bond markets and private money provides 30% of Nigerian climate finance.

Nigeria's 2025 NDC commits to reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 29% by 2030 and 32% by 2035 as compared to 2018 levels, reaching net-zero by 2060. The country acknowledges that climate finance falls well short of estimated needs for both mitigation and adaptation, which explains limited progress in the implementation of their previous NDC. Priorities include achieving 100% electricity access by 2030, with renewables making up half of the generation, expansion of Bus Rapid Transit in Lagos and Abuja, and a forthcoming National Adaptation Plan that will outline measures for agriculture, water resources, and ecosystems.

Nigeria recently activated its <u>National</u> <u>Climate Change Fund for catalytic investment</u>, innovation grants, and technical support. The country is also exploring green Sukuk—Shariacompliant interest-free bonds that could fund the <u>national Circular</u> <u>Economy Roadmap</u>, including at local government levels.

Nigerian cities identified heavy precipitation, urban and coastal flooding, biodiversity loss, and extreme heat as major climate-related hazards in 2024





#### Insights from CDP disclosure

The cities of Ibadan and Lagos, as well as the Cross River State reported to CDP in 2024, representing roughly 30 million people, 13% of the country's total population.

Climate planning capacity differs notably between the two cities. Lagos has a climate risk and vulnerability assessment, jurisdiction-wide emissions inventory, and active greenhouse gas reduction target. Ibadan is currently developing its emissions inventory—expected within the year—and plans to introduce an emissions target within two years but has not yet undertaken a climate risk and vulnerability assessment (CRVA). Both cities have active adaptation goals<sup>10</sup> and CAPs. Lagos's disclosure demonstrates the technical and

financial capacity advantages of Nigeria's largest city, while Ibadan's planned assessments and targets signal growing momentum for comprehensive climate planning. The Cross River State reported active emissions and adaptation goals but lacked an emissions inventory and CRVA.

Interjurisdictional collaboration is well-established among disclosers, with all three engaging actively with the national government. Coordination spanned multiple climate planning elements including climate action plans, risk and vulnerability assessments, mitigation targets, and adaptation goals. Ibadan specifically notes that national government engagement on climate action planning is a formal requirement.

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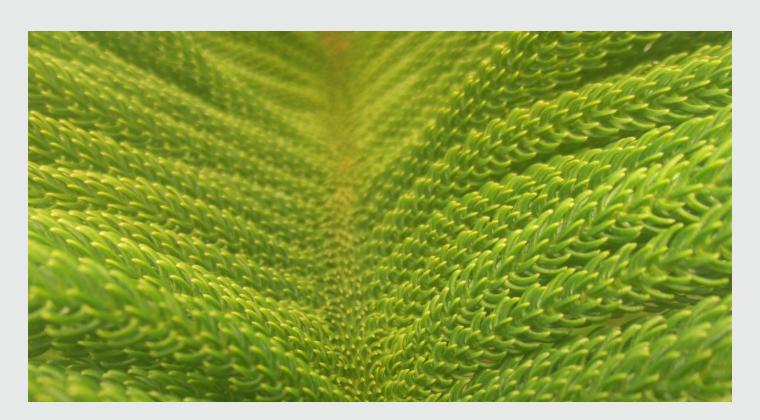


Nigerian cities and one state reported to CDP in 2024

13%



of the country's total population represented (roughly 30 million people)



<sup>10</sup> An active adaptation goal is one that includes data on the climate hazards addressed by the goal, base year of the goal, and target year of the goal (2024 and beyond).



#### Spotlight on projects

Lagos and Ibadan reported eight climate projects in 2024, though investment requirements were not disclosed. Waste management was the leading sector with four projects, followed by transport (2 projects), and one project each in renewable energy and sustainable food consumption and production.

Nearly all projects, seven of eight, remain in early development. The lack of disclosed investment needs alongside the concentration of projects in early phases suggests cities require substantial support in project scoping, feasibility assessment, and financial planning to attract climate finance and advance implementation.

#### Most common project sectors

Waste management

4 projects seeking investment

Transport

2 projects seeking investment

Renewable energy

1 project seeking investment

Sustainable food consumption and production

1 project seeking investment

2



Nigerian cities reported eight climate projects in 2024, investment requirements were not disclosed

#### Lagos

## Non- Motorised Transport for Cycling Infrastructure

The purpose of this project is to create a guide for the development of transport systems that prioritizes the needs of pedestrians and cyclists. This plan will improve basic mobility, the affordability of

transport, access to public transport, and health and recreational benefits. This policy has been developed following extensive consultations, including stakeholder meetings and capacity building workshops. Successful implementation of the policy will require the joint efforts of relevant stakeholders to develop a safe, accessible transport system for all road users

#### Development status

Project feasibility

#### Financing status

Project partially funded and seeking additional funding

Project size (US\$) 10 million < 50 million

#### Lagos

#### Construct sanitary landfills with landfill gas capture at existing and new sites

This project will convert existing open dumps in Lagos into sanitary landfills and to improve methane management. Methane capture systems will also be constructed at all new disposal sites.

The captured gas can then be used to generate electricity for local use. Key steps to implementation include the completion of a feasibility study, the development of a financing package, and updates to the regulatory framework to allow the sites to supply power to the local grid and construction.

### **Development status**Scoping

#### Financing status

Project not funded and seeking full funding

Project size (US\$) 10 million < 50 million





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#### **About CDP**

CDP is a global non-profit that runs the world's only independent environmental disclosure system. As the founder of environmental reporting, we believe in transparency and the power of data to drive change. Partnering with leaders in enterprise, capital, policy and science, we surface the information needed to enable Earth-positive decisions. We helped more than 24,800 companies and 1,100 cities, states and regions disclose their environmental impacts in 2024. Financial institutions with

more than a quarter of the world's institutional assets use CDP data to help inform investment and lending decisions. Aligned with the ISSB's climate standard, IFRS S2, as its foundational baseline, CDP integrates best-practice reporting standards and frameworks in one place. Our team is truly global, united by our shared desire to build a world where people, planet and profit are truly balanced.

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