
2022 – 2026 Strategy

Introduction

We are the UK Government's Development Finance Institution, and a proud part of the UK's offer to help developing and emerging countries meet their significant financing needs for infrastructure and enterprise.

Our new strategy builds on our deep understanding of our markets with our 75-year history and track record of success over the last decade. It sets a new ambition for scale and innovation.

We will scale in Africa and we will pivot to Asia and, in particular, South East Asia to provide green finance.

We will invest across a range of vital sectors that meet global opportunities and address challenges, including the need for jobs and the twin crises of climate change and natural resource depletion.

Our strategy will bring the best of British finance, innovation, ethics and standards to create sustainable and equitable economic outcomes for those that are most in need of our financial support, particularly in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.

We will step up to operate at scale by investing £1.5 - £2 billion per year to meet the financing needs of our partners as they seek to build back better.

New in this strategy

1. British International Investment: a new name for an organisation at the heart of the UK Government's offer

CDC is changing its name to British International Investment. The new name highlights our role at the heart of the UK Government's international financing offer and clearly defines us as a British institution.

2. An increased focus on climate finance, including in green infrastructure

We will focus our finance on the critical infrastructure that will allow all countries to build back better.

This strategy expands our climate remit, including setting a target for 30 per cent of our new commitments over five years to be in climate finance, positioning us as the UK's principal provider of such finance to emerging and developing economies.

By contributing to more sustainable economies, we will play a key role in addressing the huge challenge that climate change presents in the countries where we invest.

3. New investment in digital transformation

We will provide capital to the full spectrum of opportunities in the digital sector, from large-scale digital infrastructure to early-stage venture capital.

By investing in digital transformation, we will build productive economies, addressing constraints to economic growth and catalysing markets, and supporting the entrepreneurs who are developing solutions that can transform lives.

4. Building on our approach to gender and diversity finance

We will invest to promote diversity, including a new target for 25 per cent of our annual new commitments in gender finance.

That will contribute to our aim to ensure our investments are inclusive and that the benefits are shared with the more marginalised segments of society.

5. An expanded geographical remit to include the Indo-Pacific and Caribbean

We will start providing climate finance in the Indo-Pacific region, specifically in the larger economies of the Philippines, Indonesia and the Mekong region, with a particular emphasis on green, renewable infrastructure. We will look to invest in opportunities across the Caribbean, as they arise.

6. Forging strong partnerships to multiply the impact and financial success of our investments

We will build partnerships with like-minded organisations. We will use our proximity to the City of London to mobilise commercial investors to cement the UK as a development finance hub. We will invest in or with British businesses that operate in developing and emerging economies and who share our aims, and we will partner with global investors including sovereign wealth funds. We will work more closely with the UK Government, which has world-class diplomatic and development expertise.

The expertise and stability these partners bring can be the key to achieving impact and financial success in our investments.

All of this will be underpinned by world-class standards for honest and responsible impact investment.

CDC is changing: on 4 April 2022, we will become British International Investment