

FSD Africa ACS II Messaging

It is two years since African leaders gathered in Nairobi for the first African Climate Summit. The resulting pledges, amounting to \$26bn, were strong evidence of a real commitment to Africa-led climate solutions. But even more important was the summit's assertion of African self-determination and specifically the need to mobilise Africa's domestic private capital in the continent's climate efforts.

As leaders gather again for the second Africa Climate Summit (ACS2) in Addis Ababa, the world looks very different. There is huge global uncertainty, and the economic headwinds are even stronger. Never has the vision set out at that first summit, and in the subsequent Nairobi Declaration, of a green path to economic growth that delivers both prosperity and environmental benefits, been more relevant and more important.

This is why we wholeheartedly support the aims of ACS2 and hope to see emerging from it an even greater consensus around the value of investing in climate. The summit is also a chance to set out even more compellingly the argument that investing in climate and economic growth are not mutually exclusive but rather complementary and to make the case for greater private sector, particularly domestic, investment in the continent.

The recent cuts to overseas aid have only added to the urgency for the continent to become more economically independent and resilient. That will require stronger domestic financial markets and more long-term financing in local currency to make growth less reliant on international finance, including aid, and more resilient to economic shocks, not least those resulting from climate change.

Indeed, our belief that a green path to growth will deliver a stronger and more resilient economy and that mobilising domestic private capital will be key to this, are central to FSD Africa's mission to make finance work for Africa's future. This approach is embodied in our new strategy which is based around three key imperatives: increasing economic opportunity, protecting the environment and increasing resilience to climate and economic shocks. We have an ambitious target to mobilise and catalyse £10bn of private capital for sustainable development, 84% of it in local currency.

But the strategy also reflects the immediate problems facing many countries in Africa with a focus on sustainable debt, more adaptation finance, job creation and the need for more climate finance to power the energy transition – all areas we will be discussing across the more than half a dozen events we are hosting or co-hosting at ACS2.

Above all this summit is an opportunity to show how Africa can be at the forefront of finding solutions to the twin threats of climate change and nature loss by highlighting proven Africa-led climate solutions and the continent's bold efforts to re-green its landscapes. In that spirit, we and our partners will also be highlighting examples of the extraordinary financial innovation that is taking place across different parts of the financial system and presenting some of the transactions that have resulted.

Please join us at ACS II in Addis Ababa from 08th to 10th September to discuss these issues.

Please do get in touch through the email address communications@fsdafrica.org. This link provides the full list of events we are curating at ACS II, we look forward to seeing you there, <https://fsdafrica.org/africa-climate-summit-2025/>