



USAID SOUTH AFRICA LOW EMISSIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

CHALLENGE

South Africa has a growing economy that is highly dependent on fossil fuels. As the economic status of individuals improves, the demand on already strained energy production and associated greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions is expected to increase dramatically. USG will provide support to the S.A. Government's Green Growth Agenda and assist it with its move towards the ambitious emissions reduction targets it announced in the National Climate Change Response White Paper (2011).

APPROACH

With approximately \$14 million, USAID is partnering with the S.A. Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) and Department of Science and Technology (DST) to meet pressing capacity and analytic needs related to low emission development planning and project development at the **Municipal level** in order to transform its economy to one that supports jobs and sustainable growth, while lowering GHG emissions. Initiated in May 2015 and continuing until 2020, the Program will provide **project development capabilities** and strengthen **public sector-related development planning** skills for low emissions development. In addition, technical assistance and capacity building activities will facilitate **private sector participation** in potential low-emissions bankable projects through identifying opportunities, bringing relevant actors together and facilitating feasibility studies and innovative financing models.

OBJECTIVES

1. Strengthen public sector-related low emissions development planning and project development capacity.
2. Increase public sector competencies through technical assistance and learning activities, including integrated infrastructure and development planning.
3. Facilitate private sector participation in a range of low emission bankable projects.



RESULTS

- USAID and Government of South Africa have an agreed work program in line with the Near-Term Priority Flagship Programs discussed in National Response White Paper.
- A Project Management Office (PMO) comprised of appropriate low emissions development (LED) experienced staff has been established and has started to identify LED projects in South Africa that might require assistance.
- Development of implementation and strategic engagement strategies in order to develop the most effective capacity building and technical assistance program are underway.

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