

 Early Warning System

AFDB-P-GA-BZ0-001

Gabon – Preparatory Studies for the Establishment of the Mandji Island
Industrial Zone



Quick Facts

Countries	Gabon
Specific Location	Mandji Island
Financial Institutions	African Development Bank (AFDB)
Status	Approved
Bank Risk Rating	A
Voting Date	2025-11-11
Borrower	Government of Gabon
Sectors	Industry and Trade, Technical Cooperation
Investment Type(s)	Advisory Services
Investment Amount (USD)	\$ 0.54 million
Project Cost (USD)	\$ 0.63 million



Project Description

As stated by the AfDB, the ultimate objective of the project is to stimulate structural transformation through local processing of raw materials and the upgrading of enterprises. The initiation of an industrial hub on Mandji Island and the strengthening of the industrial support ecosystem are expected, among other outcomes, to:

- (i) attract private investment, enhance value addition in selected sustainable priority value chains, and diversify exports;
- (ii) accelerate local processing of raw materials and improve the quality of locally manufactured products;
- (iii) promote youth and women’s entrepreneurship and foster the emergence of national champions; and
- (iv) create sustainable jobs for young people and women while improving the living standards of local communities.

The specific objective of this technical assistance project is to conduct the required studies and prepare project documents that will enable the mobilization of financial resources and partners to ensure the establishment of the Mandji Island industrial zone and a business incubator.

The proposed project forms part of the implementation of the Gabon Emerging Strategic Plan and the National Import Substitution Strategy through the rollout of the “Gabon Industry” pillar, which aims to enhance the valorisation of the country’s raw material resources by increasing value added and promoting local subcontracting. Financing this project through the PRI grant will help ensure high-quality project preparation for the investment initiative envisaged by the Government, support the sustainability of the establishment of the Mandji Island industrial zone, and ensure that risks and impacts are adequately assessed, mitigation measures clearly identified, and implementation costs properly estimated. Through the feasibility studies of the industrial zone and the business incubator, the project will also contribute to promoting private-sector-oriented solutions and creating investment opportunities.

It will further enable the Bank to support infrastructure financing while simultaneously assisting key stakeholders, notably the Government and interested private sector actors wishing to locate in the zone. In order to achieve the overarching objective of stimulating structural transformation through local processing of raw materials and enterprise upgrading, the project will be structured around two components: the first will focus on maturing the Mandji Island industrial zone project to drive structural change through local value addition, while the second will propose an incubator model to support enterprises in priority value chains through capacity upgrading and business development support.

The total cost of the project amounts to UA 470,000 and will be jointly financed by the Bank (UA 400,000) and the Government of the Republic of Gabon (UA 70,000 in in-kind contribution).



Investment Description

- African Development Bank (AFDB)



Contact Information

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ACCESS TO INFORMATION

You can submit an information request for project information at: <https://www.afdb.org/en/disclosure-and-access-to-information/request-for-documents>. Under the AfDB's Disclosure and Access to Information policy, if you feel the Bank has omitted to publish information or your request for information is unreasonably denied, you can file an appeal at <https://www.afdb.org/en/disclosure-and-access-to-information/appeals-process>.

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