



# PATHWAY TO ECONOMIC GROWTH: CONCERTED AND SUSTAINABLE ACTION ON THE AFRICAN CONTINENT

Africa Strategy Summary

# 10

## REASONS TO TAKE AN INTEREST IN AFRICA AND INVEST THERE

### 1. AFRICAN COUNTRIES: CHAMPIONS OF ECONOMIC GROWTH

- Four of the world's most dynamic economies (in 2019): Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Ghana and Rwanda.
- Over one fourth of African countries experienced a GDP growth exceeding 5% in 2018 and 2019.
- 37 of the 54 African countries have economic emergence plans.

### 2. CONTINENTAL ECONOMIC INTEGRATION

- Implementation of the AfCFTA: a new US\$2,500 billion economic area.
- Five economic areas already integrated.

### 3. RAPIDLY GROWING DEMOGRAPHICS AND MIDDLE CLASS BOOM

- Two billion Africans in 2050.
- The middle class in Africa tripled between 2000 and 2018 (34% of the continent's approximately 1.2 billion inhabitants).

### 4. RAPID URBANIZATION

- Half of Africans live in urban areas.
- Major projects: roads, bridges, ports and other infrastructure, smart cities, housing, etc.

### 5. 2050 HORIZON: LA FRANCOPHONIE WILL BE AFRICAN

- 85% of the world's Francophones will be African in 2050 – 654 million people sharing the French language.
- Sharing a common language increases bilateral trade by about 44%.

### 6. AFRICA'S LAND MASS: THE LARGEST RESERVES ON THE PLANET

- Québec's expertise in the mining sector stands out from its competitors for its integrated approach and is recognized in Africa.
- Artificial intelligence adapted to the mining sector: a field of expertise where Québec can position itself in Africa.

### 7. MAJOR ENERGY PROJECTS

- 645 million people without electricity.
- Tangible opportunities for Québec to enter this sector's value chain.

### 8. THE DIGITAL SURGE

- One billion internet users in Africa by 2040.
- Continental connectivity enables the deployment of major large-scale projects, particularly in agriculture and education.

### 9. A QUÉBEC RICH IN ITS DIVERSITY

- Dynamic nature of the African diaspora.
- Importance of African immigration for Québec's regions.
- Contribution of African students to Québec's economic vitality.

### 10. QUÉBEC'S EXPERTISE AND REPUTATION IN INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY BUILDING

- Québec's expertise in training African leaders.
- A model of international cooperation based on mutually beneficial partnerships.

The **AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK (AFDB)** increased its **investment capital** in the **infrastructure** sector from **US\$93 billion to US\$208 billion**. This financial support for African states will allow major infrastructure projects to move forward in the coming years and provide secure **payment guarantees** for Québec companies wanting to invest in Africa.

#### Already operating in Africa:

- More than **40 Québec international cooperation organizations**;
- More than **40 Québec educational institutions** (universities and colleges);
- More than **130 Québec companies**.

This strategy stems from Québec's International Vision and sets out the following objectives:

- Strengthen Québec's position in Africa.
- Support the development of multi-sectoral partnerships between Québec and Africa.
- Increase exports and promote economic trade.
- Diversify markets.
- Promote synergies among Québec's various players active on the African continent.

## \$54.2M OVER FIVE YEARS TO STRENGTHEN QUÉBEC'S ACTION IN AFRICA, INCLUDING:

- **\$50M** from Investissement Québec International to create a special fund for Québec companies seeking to export to Africa;
- **\$2M** to the African Development Bank's Africa Climate Change Fund.

### THE QUÉBEC-AFRICA MULTI-SECTOR BRIDGE

## FIVE PILLARS

PILLAR 1



#### ECONOMY

##### DIRECTION 1

Support companies in internationalizing their activities in Africa.

##### DIRECTION 2

Strengthen Québec's economic diplomacy in Africa.

##### DIRECTION 3

Develop business intelligence with respect to African markets.

##### DIRECTION 4

Strengthen Québec's appeal for African workers.

##### DIRECTION 5

Strengthen Québec's action in youth entrepreneurship.

PILLAR 2



#### EDUCATION AND HIGHER LEARNING

##### DIRECTION 6

Promote Québec's educational offer in Africa and foster the mobility of people and knowledge.

##### DIRECTION 7

Foster partnerships, research and collaboration in education and science between Québec and Africa.

PILLAR 3



#### CULTURE

##### DIRECTION 8

Strengthen the influence and outreach of Québec cultural productions in Africa.

##### DIRECTION 9

Strengthen cultural diplomacy with African partners.

PILLAR 4



#### INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY

##### DIRECTION 10

Strengthen Québec's commitment to international solidarity by promoting and consolidating partnerships between Québec's international cooperation organizations and organizations in Africa in order to improve living conditions and empower African populations with a view to sustainable economic development.

PILLAR 5



#### INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY-BUILDING

##### DIRECTION 11

Promote the outreach of Québec expertise and know-how in governance and institutional capacity building in Francophone Africa as a lever of influence.



**To strengthen its positioning in Africa,  
Québec can rely on:**

- its network of government offices in Africa and links with its local partners;
- its membership in La Francophonie;
- its international solidarity action;
- the favourable view Africans have of Québec;
- African leaders who know Québec well.



## **NICHES OF EXCELLENCE AND PRIORITY ECONOMIC SECTORS FOR QUÉBEC IN AFRICA**



**NATURAL RESOURCES AND EXTRACTIVE INDUSTRIES**



**INFRASTRUCTURE AND CONSULTING ENGINEERING**



**AGRICULTURE**



**ENERGY AND GREEN TECHNOLOGIES**



**INFORMATION AND DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES**

**Relations  
internationales  
et Francophonie**

**Québec**

