SFD
الصندوق السعودي للتنمية
Saudi Fund for Development

VISION رؤية 2030
المملكة العربية السعودية
KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA



50 YEARS OF GLOBAL IMPACT

The Saudi Fund for Development's Efforts to Support Landlocked Countries 2024

(ISSN 1319 - 0911)
Legal Deposit (14/0203)

Introduction

Landlocked countries confront multiple development challenges and suffer from geographical isolation that increases their developmental challenges. The transportation sector is the backbone of these countries, and plays a vital role in promoting their economic and social development. It serves as the primary link that enables access to regional and global markets, especially given their distance from major trade centers and absence of seaports connecting them to other countries. This sector is becoming increasingly important as a key driver of trade, connecting production centers to neighboring countries' import and export points, thereby increasing trade volumes, reducing logistics costs, and enhancing the economic competitiveness of those countries. Furthermore, the development of road and railway networks and logistics corridors contributes to attracting investment, enhancing the transport of goods and people, and supporting economic integration with neighboring countries. Considering its importance, investment in all means of transport is essential to bridge the connectivity gap with the world and promote sustainable economic growth. In this context, SFD works to empower landlocked countries to overcome geographical limitations and enhance their ability for regional and international economic integration. This is achieved by providing development loans for infrastructure projects, especially in transport and communications, as well as supporting other development projects aimed at improving essential services. The following is an overview of SFD's activities in supporting landlocked countries.



SFD's Efforts to Support Landlocked Countries

Driven by its leading international role, SFD has paid special attention to landlocked countries, which face major geographic and economic challenges due to the lack of seaports, restricting their economic growth and capacity for sustainable development. Within this framework, SFD has provided **174** development loans to landlocked countries, benefiting **25** developing countries worldwide with a total funding amount of USD **3,350.89** million. Several countries across different continents benefited from development loans. Africa region ranked first, with **15** countries benefiting for a total of USD **1,751.22** million. It was followed by Asia and the Pacific region, where **8** countries benefiting for a total of USD **1,364.54** million. As for Europe region, **2** countries benefiting a total of USD **235.13** million. SFD's contributions to supporting landlocked countries include financing various projects across key sectors, such as transport and communications, social infrastructure, agriculture, energy, and industry and mining. These activities aim to reduce the impact of geographic isolation and enhance these countries' capacity to integrate into regional and international economies. This approach demonstrates SFD's deep commitment to international cooperation for attaining sustainable development, supporting least-developed countries, and promoting global partnerships for development.

SFD's Loans for the Development of Landlocked Countries Aim to Achieve the Following



Reducing Poverty

Implementing integrated development projects that create sustainable job opportunities and deliver essential services to the population, thereby reducing poverty levels.



Promoting Sustainable Development

Implementing projects that integrate environmental, social, and economic considerations to promote comprehensive and sustainable development that serves both current and future generations.



Fostering Economic Integration

Facilitating the connection of landlocked countries' economies with their regional neighbors via transport and energy networks, thus creating opportunities for efficient economic cooperation.



Enhancing Regional Trade

Strengthening trade relations between landlocked countries and neighboring nations to enhance the exchange of goods and services, thereby supporting sustainable economic development.



Breaking Geographic Isolation

Reducing the impact of geographic isolation by establishing transport corridors and modern communication networks that enable these countries to access regional and global markets more easily.



Reducing Logistics Costs

Developing modern transport networks to reduce logistics costs, thereby enhancing these countries' competitiveness in global markets.



Attracting Foreign Investment

Establishing a secure and attractive investment environment by improving infrastructure, thereby boosting investment inflows and promoting economic growth.



Bridging Regional Gaps

Bridging the development gap between urban and rural regions by improving services and infrastructure, benefiting all segments of population.

SFD's Contributions to Landlocked Countries by Geographical Regions

Africa

Ethiopia	
No. of Loans	8
Total Amount (USD Million)	227.33

Eswatini	
No. of Loans	1
Total Amount (USD Million)	10.00

Central African	
No. of Loans	6
Total Amount (USD Million)	114.00

Niger	
No. of Loans	13
Total Amount (USD Million)	157.90

Uganda	
No. of Loans	7
Total Amount (USD Million)	81.16

Botswana	
No. of Loans	2
Total Amount (USD Million)	15.84

Burkina Faso	
No. of Loans	15
Total Amount (USD Million)	217.50

Burundi	
No. of Loans	14
Total Amount (USD Million)	160.24

Chad	
No. of Loans	7
Total Amount (USD Million)	131.20

Rwanda	
No. of Loans	13
Total Amount (USD Million)	160.73

Zambia	
No. of Loans	5
Total Amount (USD Million)	170.14

Zimbabwe	
No. of Loans	1
Total Amount (USD Million)	6.31

Lesotho	
No. of Loans	4
Total Amount (USD Million)	39.71

Mali	
No. of Loans	16
Total Amount (USD Million)	203.16

Malawi	
No. of Loans	4
Total Amount (USD Million)	56.00

SFD's Contributions to Landlocked Countries by Geographical Regions

Asia and the Pacific

Azerbaijan	
No. of Loans	5
Total Amount (USD Million)	100.52

Nepal	
No. of Loans	7
Total Amount (USD Million)	126.59

Afghanistan	
No. of Loans	5
Total Amount (USD Million)	216.00

Uzbekistan	
No. of Loans	11
Total Amount (USD Million)	275.73

Turkmenistan	
No. of Loans	1
Total Amount (USD Million)	10.00

Tajikistan	
No. of Loans	13
Total Amount (USD Million)	293.70

Kyrgyzstan	
No. of Loans	10
Total Amount (USD Million)	330.00

Kazakhstan	
No. of Loans	1
Total Amount (USD Million)	12.00

SFD's Contributions to Landlocked Countries by Geographical Regions

Europe

Serbia	
No. of Loans	3
Total Amount (USD Million)	205.00

Kosovo	
No. of Loans	2
Total Amount (USD Million)	30.13

Total



No. of Countries
25



No. of Loans
174



Amount (USD Million)
3,350.89

SFD's Contributions to Landlocked Countries by Sector

Transport and Communications	
No. of Countries	20
No. of Loans	65
Total Amount (USD Million)	1,062.18

Social Infrastructure	
No. of Countries	18
No. of Loans	54
Total Amount (USD Million)	1,307.47

Agriculture	
No. of Countries	13
No. of Loans	30
Total Amount (USD Million)	506.42

Energy	
No. of Countries	9
No. of Loans	12
Total Amount (USD Million)	297.32

Industry and Mining	
No. of Countries	1
No. of Loans	1
Total Amount (USD Million)	6.67

Other Sectors	
No. of Countries	7
No. of Loans	12
Total Amount (USD Million)	170.83




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