

# SDGs create investment opportunities in Africa

There is a \$197bn opportunity for private-sector investors in five high-growth markets in Africa to help achieve the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), with improving digital access making up \$74.5bn of that total.



Image source: Getty/Gallo

[\*Opportunity2030: The Standard Chartered SDG Investment Map\*](#) reveals that investors can contribute to three infrastructure-focused goals between now and 2030 across emerging markets.:

- SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation
- SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy
- SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

This represents a \$10trn opportunity for private sector investors across the globe, which is around 40% of the total funding required to meet specific indicators within the three SDGs – allowing for population growth as well as maintaining current access – with public funds expected to provide the bulk of the investment.

Five African countries are included in the study: Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, Uganda and Zambia. Key highlights include:

- Providing universal digital access represents the greatest investment opportunity for the private sector by 2030 (\$74.5bn), followed by universal access to power (\$65.8bn), transport infrastructure (\$46.4bn) and access to clean

water and sanitation (\$10.3bn)

- The biggest single opportunity across the African markets in the study is in increasing digital access – a combination of mobile phone subscriptions rates and internet connectivity – in Nigeria (\$47.4bn). Driven by its large and growing population, Nigeria also offers the greatest overall opportunity across the SDG indicators measured (a total of \$114.2bn), followed by Kenya (\$40bn)
- Zambia and Kenya present a big opportunity to make an impact on SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation): With an average of 43% and 56% of the population respectively currently lacking access to clean water and sanitation, there is a \$0.7bn and \$2.3bn private-sector investment opportunity to help close the gap by 2030
- Uganda presents a meaningful opportunity to make an impact on SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy): with just 22% of the population that have access to electricity, there is a \$6.1bn private-sector investment opportunity to help achieve universal access by 2030
- The greatest investment opportunity in Ghana is in achieving and maintaining universal access to electricity (a key SDG 7 indicator), representing a \$7.8bn private-sector opportunity

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