



DEVELOPMENT  
CORRIDORS  
PARTNERSHIP

# The Development Corridors Partnership

Building Capacity for  
Sustainable Development  
Corridors in Africa



## The Development Corridors Partnership is a research and capacity building collaboration among UK, African and Chinese institutions.

Partners from Tanzania, Kenya, China and the UK are coming together to improve the rigour, relevance and quality of interdisciplinary development corridor research and build capacity to plan and implement development corridors in Africa that are more sustainable, resilient and inclusive. Involving host country institutions (Kenya, Tanzania) as well as investment source country institutions (China, UK) ensures deep local knowledge is combined with an ability to address critical investment decision making processes.

### Benefits of development corridors

Development corridors have the potential to diversify and improve livelihood capitals by making trade, communications and services more efficient. They can also spread development opportunities to remote, poor and marginalised communities and regions, thus enabling countries to better achieve their priority Sustainable Development Goals by 2030.

These significant benefits can be maximised if corridors are planned and implemented through an integrated approach using sound policies, plans and practices.

### Challenges of development corridors

As well as achieving economic goals, development corridors need to protect the integrity of ecosystems and biodiversity, and respect the rights and livelihoods of communities from the earliest stages of planning and throughout the implementation of their development activities.

Negative impacts of poorly planned and implemented corridors include the loss of biodiversity, ecosystem integrity, livelihoods and social cohesion.

Poor design or implementation may also leave communities with greater vulnerability to, for example, the impacts of climate change. Such challenges can threaten the attainment of the broader social and economic goals of development corridors.

### The Development Corridors Partnership

*Partners have come together to build capacity so development corridor decision-making can be based on sound scientific evidence and effective use of planning tools and procedures.*

The Partnership will build capacity among researchers, practitioners, government and private sector actors to deliver sustainable development corridors in East Africa. This will include increasing availability of the best tools and analyses and the skill to use them.

## A development corridor is an, often linear, geographical area targeted for investments aimed to promote economic growth.

### Sustainable investments in East Africa

*The Development Corridors Partnership aims to inform and improve the sustainability of outward investment policy of important investment source countries, such as China and the UK.*

The Development Corridors Partnership brings together three Chinese think tanks, five UK, Kenyan and Tanzanian universities and three Kenyan, Tanzanian and UK conservation organisations to develop capacity, lessons and tools to support good practices for planning and implementing development corridors for the wider African continent, and worldwide.

For example the Belt and Road Initiative, initiated by China, is one of the largest development schemes in the world. It aims to improve economic and cultural connectivity between Asia, Europe and Africa through enhanced infrastructure, trade and cultural exchanges, resulting in increased Chinese investments going into countries along the Belt and Road routes. East Africa is the continent's key entry region for the Belt and Road Initiative.

### Five Priorities

1. Carry out interdisciplinary and international research programmes to assess current development corridor impact, processes and practices
2. Build capacity in using and developing data, tools and techniques for corridor impact assessments, planning and management in Africa
3. Provide guidance on how corridors can be better designed to deliver sustainable, inclusive and resilient economic growth
4. Assess streams of Chinese investments in East Africa and their role in supporting sustainable development
5. Conduct outreach and engagement activities in East Africa and China with corridor decision makers and stakeholders



## Interdisciplinary Research

*We will undertake rigorous, relevant, high-quality interdisciplinary research and build capacity to plan and implement development corridors in Africa that are sustainable, resilient and inclusive.*

The Partnership will work together to build capacity to:

- Analyse the social and political dimensions of development corridors to understand the effectiveness of policies and practices, including decision making processes
- Identify positive and negative impacts of existing development corridors in Kenya and Tanzania and key issues in need of change
- Integrate climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies in development corridor processes to build resilience to the risks associated with climate change
- Ensure better use of tools within development corridor design and implementation - such as Strategic Environmental Assessments (SEAs), Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIAs), and Environmental and Social Performance standards generally
- Improve development corridor land-use planning through natural capital and ecosystem services assessment and evaluation, and scenario analysis

**The Development Corridors Partnership project will run until December 2021 and is funded by the UK Research and Innovation's Global Challenges Research Fund**

### Get in touch

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### Partners

#### United Kingdom



#### China



#### Kenya



#### Funders



#### Tanzania



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