Africa50 is an infrastructure investment platform that contributes to the continent’s growth by developing and investing in bankable projects, catalyzing public sector capital and mobilizing private sector funding, with differentiated financial returns and impact.

With initial funding from 23 African shareholder countries, the AfDB, the Central Bank of West African States (BCEAO), and the Bank Al-Maghrib (BAM), and a mandate that seeks to deliver development impact and differentiated financial returns, Africa50 was launched with the goal of helping to address the most pressing impediments to infrastructure provision on the continent.

Africa50 helps to address the continent’s infrastructure funding needs ($1.2 tn by 2025) by closing gaps in the infrastructure development lifecycle.

Having secured US$812 million in committed capital, the organization began building its investment pipeline, recruiting staff, attracting new shareholders, and updating its governance structure in anticipation of launching a fundraising initiative targeted at institutional and private investors.

Specifically, Africa50 established its operational headquarters in Morocco, hired several key members of the senior management team, as well as experienced support staff, and appointed leading strategic, financial and legal advisors. Additionally, following the approval in 2016 of an Interim Investment Policy by its Board of Directors, Africa50 appointed internationally recognized executives to its Investment Committee, further underpinning its strong commitment to a rigorous project selection process.

Africa50’s core value proposition includes:
- Close relationships with African government shareholders and the AfDB
- Jurisdiction-specific risk mitigation through high level public-sector engagement
- Preferential access to deal-flow generated from project development activities, and through ongoing dialogue with its African government shareholders
- Experienced investment team with a demonstrated track record of deal-making
- Access to competitive finance, including long-term debt from the AfDB and broader DFI community, as well as existing concessional funding
- International best-practice ESG standards

Through its value proposition, Africa50 seeks to contribute to the PPP infrastructure agenda across the continent.

Africa50 raises funds from different investor groups such as governments, DFIs, African pension funds, and international institutional investors; offering investment opportunities tailored to
their return expectations with funds clearly targeted for Project Development as well as Project Finance

- Africa50 will continue to develop and extend its government shareholder base on the continent

- Currently organized as two dedicated investment vehicles, Africa50’s collective reach includes activities traditionally undertaken by both Development Finance Institutions (DFIs) as well as the private sector, affording it the capacity to participate throughout the lifecycle of a project as follows:
  - Africa50-Project Development seeks to contribute to growing a pipeline of bankable projects by providing early-stage risk capital, as well as expertise and support engaging investors and stakeholders, from project development to financial close
  - Africa50-Project Finance primarily invests equity/quasi-equity in private sector-driven infrastructure projects, including Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) near or beyond financial close and often with a high developmental impact, with the intention of delivering differentiated returns across its portfolio

- Africa50 seeks to act as a strategic minority partner, working alongside African governments, the African Development Bank, and private sponsors, to speed up the infrastructure development process through the deployment of early stage capital, as well as helping to secure finance and mitigate risks across all stages of a project’s life cycle.

- It has built a pipeline of good projects in both its Project Development and Project Finance focus areas, and committed its first investment in December 2016, jointly developed with Scatec Solar and Norfund of Norway, in a 100 MW solar PV Independent Power Project in Jigawa State, Nigeria. With these building blocks in place, Africa50 is now poised to ramp up its development, investments, and institutional fundraising activities

- Africa50 Project Finance expects to invest in infrastructure through direct investment activities and through infrastructure funds

- Africa50 believes in its potential to mobilize private sector capital, by contributing to the Public-Private Partnership infrastructure agenda on the continent, as follows:
  - Acts as a bridge between its African government shareholders and private investors, advocating for greater private sector participation, as well as helping to resolve project roadblocks
  - Attracts private sector capital by increasing the number of bankable opportunities in Africa
  - Sources funds from a global pool of investors, including institutions with a longer-term investment horizon
  - Leverages returns to help fund transformative projects with high developmental impact

- Africa50 prioritizes investment in the Power and Transport sectors, projected to collectively absorb 68% of Africa’s overall infrastructure funding by 2025