



NINE

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY, AND CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION AND ADAPTATION



SDG 13 prioritises urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts. Africa is vulnerable to the impacts of climate change – for instance, reduced access to clean water, drought and flooding, and the impact of changing weather patterns on harvests. We're working with clients to develop appropriate solutions for mitigating the effects of climate change, especially in agriculture. Standard Bank is a major investor in renewable energy technologies across Africa, while also making internal investments to reduce the bank's own direct carbon footprint.

MINIMISING OUR DIRECT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

Standard Bank is investing in greening our offices and branches across Africa. All new buildings are aligned with the Green Building Council of South Africa's (GBCSA) sustainability rules, while our energy management system aligns with ISO 50001, an international standard designed to conserve resources, tackle climate change and save money.

In 2017, we reduced Standard Bank's energy consumption by 21.7% against the 2014 baseline, exceeding the target we set for 2020. These efforts attracted numerous awards.

IN JOHANNESBURG, our renewable energy parking facility at No. 1 Simmonds Street produces more carbon-free electricity than it consumes.

Our Global Leadership Centre is the first commercial facility in Africa to be awarded an ISO 50001 Energy Management certification, and in 2017 won an Insight Award from the Clean Energy Ministerial.

R4.9 million

INVESTED INTO ENERGY EFFICIENCY IMPROVEMENTS, PRODUCING 1 978 KW FROM RENEWABLE ENERGY IN 2017

SINCE 2014, SBSA'S CARBON FOOTPRINT REDUCED BY 21.7% TO **260 721 CO₂e[✓] metric tons** IN 2017

IN 2017, RENEWABLE ENERGY PROVIDED APPROXIMATELY **2.7 MWH**

ESG



Environmental, social & governance report (online only) <http://sustainability.standardbank.com/esg/>



Environmental sustainability,
and climate change
mitigation and adaptation

SOUTH AFRICA

We play a strong advocacy role with representation on the boards of the Southern African Energy Efficiency Confederation and the Green Building Council of South Africa.

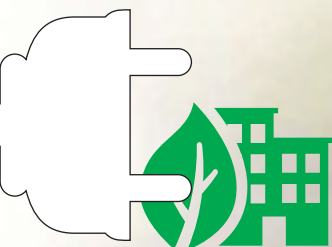
- Standard Bank South Africa won the 2017 Energy Management Insight Award from the Energy Management Working Group.
- During 2017, 12 of our branches were awarded a 4-star Green Interior rating. We're working to introduce more efficient energy and water solutions across all our newly-built facilities.

INTERNATIONAL

- In 2017, the international Association of Energy Engineers (AEE) awarded us the 2017 Africa Energy Manager of the Year Award, and Young Energy Professional of the Year.

Our head office in Malawi follows eco-efficient design, while new facilities in Windhoek in Namibia and Maputo in Mozambique are energy and water wise.

Looking ahead, we are **investigating Science-Based Targets (SBT)** to reduce our **GHG emissions** and conducting a water usage review across our South African operations.



BEING PROACTIVE ABOUT THE DROUGHT IN THE WESTERN CAPE

The Western Cape drought is financially harming many of our clients in the commercial, agriculture, retail and small business sectors. We're proactively engaging with them to minimise their risk of defaulting on loan payments.

We've assisted **several commercial clients to finance contingency plans** that reduce their dependency on municipal water, with one commercial property client reducing water consumption by 70%.

In the agriculture sector, **we've restructured clients' debts to maintain the viability of their businesses.** While most of our high revenue business and SME clients have plans for the next 12 months, smaller businesses are more seriously affected. We're working on a case-by-case basis with them to provide what support we can.

Among retail clients, the lower to middle segments of the market are likely to be most affected, and the risk of job losses is significant if the drought persists. We're **engaging with these clients to work out plans for their debt management** going forward.



CASE STUDY

DOING OUR BIT FOR CAPE TOWN'S WATER CRISIS

Since mid-2017, we've been substantially reducing water consumption in our Cape Town offices, with two major office buildings reducing consumption by over 50%. Water saving measures include:

- awareness campaigns in all our buildings
- cutting toilet flushing water by a third
- installing waterless hand sanitisers in all bathrooms
- installing water tanks for emergency drinking and flushing water
- investigating technological solutions such as air to water generators
- switching from water-cooled to air-cooled air-conditioning
- engaging with our catering and cleaning service providers to minimise water use.