Standard Bank

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ONE africapractice

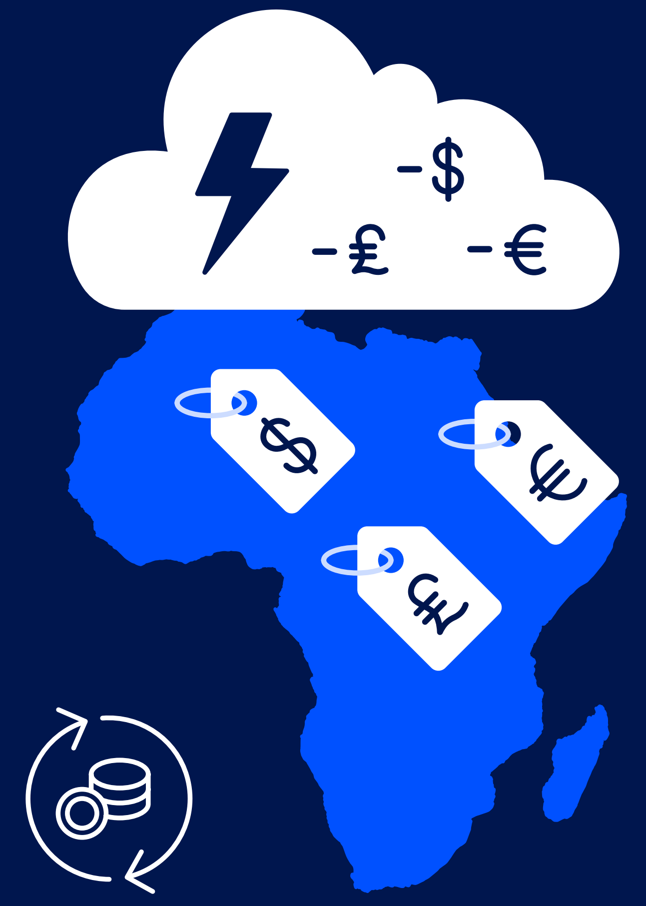
# WHY AFRICA PAYS MORE FOR MONEY, AND WHY THAT MUST CHANGE

## 01

### The opening reality

**For African nations, money costs more.**

Whether building roads, hospitals or schools African countries pay up to eight times more to borrow money than wealthier nations.



## 02

### Why?

**Global finance bias:**

Africa is labelled "high risk", even when actual default rates are low.

**Inaccurate credit ratings:**

Ratings agencies often downgrade African countries without considering full economic realities.

**Currency weakness penalty:**

Lower ratings tend to make local currencies weaker, further increasing the cost of borrowing internationally.

## 03

### The human impact

**When capital costs more:**

- Fewer schools get built.
- Infrastructure projects stall.
- Essential services slow down.

The cost of capital is a hidden burden on Africa's growth.

## 04

### Reframing the narrative

**Africa is not a risk.**
**Africa is a return.**

With fairer financing, African countries can invest in their people, drive innovation and lead global markets.

## 05

### The call to action

**To unlock Africa's future:**

- Demand transparent and fair credit assessments.
- Rewrite outdated global finance rules.
- End the "African risk premium."

Cut the price of money. Accelerate Africa's future.

Africa isn't a risk. It's a growth engine being overcharged.

Make capital affordable. Drive global returns.