



Pan-Africa Component

***Climate Research for Development (CR4D)
Joint Scientific Advisory Committee and the Oversight
Board Meeting***

***20-21 October 2016
UNCC, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia***

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Partners



SUMMARY

The joint Climate Research for Development (CR4D) Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) members and the Oversight Board members meeting was held back-to-back to the sixth Annual Climate Change for Development in Africa Conference between 20 and 21 of October 2016, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. A total of sixteen participants attended the meeting. Based on the objectives of the meeting, participants discussed and made the following major decision. The Oversight Board reaffirmed its endorsement of the 15 SAC members, appointed in September 2015, for a term of three years. The Oversight Board also announced its decision to expand the SAC member to 19 to address the current gender imbalance as well as inadequate representation of the social science experts in the SAC and accepted the nomination of Prof. Richard Anyah as the 16th member. The joint meeting also recognized the unyielding contributions of Dr. Fatima Denton, and the WISER project funded by DFID for supporting CR4D. Furthermore, the meeting recognized the two re-search topics identified during the eastern and southern Regional Climate Research Partnership (RCRP) workshops and recommended the draft concept note developed fully to secure fund from the WISER phase II, ClimDev Africa phase II or other sources. Based on the request from the SAC members, similar CR4D-RCRP Workshops should be organized for the Northern Africa and African-SIDS in order to identify priority research topics for the regions. The meeting discussed the ToR for ICP and SAC; and decided that ICP shall meet once a year preferably back-to-back to CCDA while SAC members shall meet twice a year (one meeting back-to-back CCDA and the other in February/March and its venue decided by the member and the secretariat). The meeting recognized the urgency of developing the 5-year strategic plan for CR4D and accepted the proposed nine areas of focus in the draft ToR. As a way forward, sub-committee from the SAC was formed to further develop the strategic plan. As an incoming member of the oversight board, Dr. James Murombedzi (OIC, ACPC) assured participants that the ACPC-WISER Coordinator (Dr. Joseph Intisful) will temporarily take charge of CR4D coordination role until the fixed-term Coordinator comes on-board. Overall, the meeting recommended about 10 points with regard to the future direction of CR4D. They also decided that the CR4D secretariat to co-organize the up-coming training workshop on "data rescue and monitoring of climate extremes, 2017" to be held in Gaborone, Botswana, together with the World Climate Research Program (WCRP).

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JUSTIFICATION

The climate research for development (CR4D) in Africa initiative, which is an outcome of the Africa Climate Conference 2013, was officially launched in June 2015 to, among others, strengthen links between climate science research and climate information needs in support of development planning in Africa. The CR4D Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC), in conjunction with the CR4D Secretariat, the Institutional Collaboration Platform (ICP), and the Oversight Board, supports implementation of the CR4D initiative. The SAC is an impartial, transparent international body with a rotating membership, seeking to entrain and represent the priorities of African scientific, practitioner and policy community. It advised ICP on the climate research priorities and serving as the caretaker of the research agenda by filtering stakeholder identified priorities, and ensuring they are consistent and aligned to funding priorities and principle of equity; - regional, gender, and youth (early career) balance. SAC's technical and scientific guidance to the CR4D platform also includes strategic direction on how new climate research outcomes can be translated into applications and tailored products for decision makers, as well as in peer reviewed publications.

During its previous meeting, which was held on 17-18 March 2016 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, the SAC discussed on several issues and resolved to pursue (i) development of a draft framework for a post Paris 2 deg. Africa2020 Assessment; (ii) development of a 5-Year CR4D Strategic Plan; (iii) exploring viable option for Climate Research and Development in Africa Publication outlets; (iv) ensuring SAC's engagement on future CR4D Pilot Research Activities;

(v) reviewing of SAC and Institutional Collaboration Platform ToRs; and (vi) endorsement of CR4D Regional Climate Research Partnership (RCRP) Workshops for Eastern and Southern Africa. SAC members had also elected Prof. Amadou Gaye (University Cheikh Antia Diop (UCAD), Senegal) and Dr. Judith Omumbo (ICF International, Kenya) as SAC Co-chairs through a transparent process (secret ballot). Since then, the SAC and the CR4D Secretariat have been working on various assignments. This meeting is, therefore designed to discuss/review progress on those assignments and give recommendation on the future direction of CR4D.

Hence, the specific objectives of upcoming SAC meeting include; -

- Reviewing progress of CR4D activities as of September 2016
- Reviewing the white paper on a framework for a post Paris 2 deg. Africa2020 Assessment
- Reviewing progress on the development of a 5-Year CR4D Strategic Plan;
- Reviewing viable option for Climate Research and Development in Africa Publication outlets;
- Discussing options on the continuity of CR4D RCRP platforms and other emerging issues;
- Joint reviewing of CR4D governance, ICP members and others by SAC and oversight board

WLECOMING REMARKS

Dr. Mukabana, Director of WMO regional Office for Africa and Least Developed Countries and AMCOMET Secretariat and a member of the CR4D Oversight Board, welcomed all participants to the first joint CR4D Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) and Oversight Board meeting. In his opening speech, he reiterated that global temperature is rising and the Paris Agreement is a landmark achievement in the history of global climate negotiations to keep the warming well below 2 °C, and that the CR4D initiative can rally African scientists, and their partners to make significant contributions in addressing the impacts of climate warming on critical socio-economic sectors; Therefore, the Paris agreement provides opportunities to African scientists to conduct relevant research. However, effective research requires improving collection and access to climatic data, rigorous analysis, and generation of relevant information to inform various stakeholders including policy makers as well as the UNFCCC process;

However, he noted that obtaining climate data for research in Africa remains a serious challenge, as well translating research into useful knowledge, information and services. Hence, the role of CR4D research is to:

- help climate information users to understand climate science behind such information,
- translate climate science research into information for meaningful impacts' assessment in Africa,
- catalyze capacity building and development on impact based forecasting and systematic observation,

- Facilitate alignment of user-driven climate research with Agenda 2063 and national agendas, and
- Enable linkages between national, regional, and global climate research priorities and issues.
- He also reiterated that conducting meaningful climate research requires strong linkages between the research communities/platform such as advocated by CR4D with NMHS. In this regard, WMO-AMCOMET have lead a needs assessment study under the WISER project to enhance capacity of regional climate centers (RCCs);
- Finally, he wished participants a successful deliberations during two days meeting.

PARTICIPANTS' INTRODUCTIONS

A total of sixteen participants attended the first Joint SAC and Oversight Board Meeting from 20-21 Oct 2016, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia (see annex 2). The SAC members introduced themselves, their expertise, and affiliations to the Oversight Board.

KEY ANNOUNCEMENTS BY OVERSIGHT BOARD:

Based upon prior board decisions...

1. The Oversight Board reaffirmed its endorsement of the 15 CR4D Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) members, appointed in September 2015, for a term of three years;. Dr. Mukabana explained that the nomination of SAC members took long process, starting with an initial list of 136 nominees. Based on disciplines, skills, competency, gender, geographic distribution, the committee retained 32 nominees. In February 2015, in Cape Verde during the official launch of the CR4D initiative, the SAC nominees had been whittled down to eight (8) members. However, a decision was made, during the oversight board meeting in May 2015 to expand to 17 in order to meet the key criteria of multi-disciplinarily, gender and regional balance. Finally, based on those criteria, a list of 15 nominees was agreed on during the May 2015 meeting (via video conference of the Oversight Board);
2. The Oversight Board also announced its decision to expand the SAC member to 19 to address the current gender imbalance as well as inadequate representation of the social science experts in the SAC. And the three new SAC members shall be women in the area of economics, indigenous knowledge, and gender and development. However, the existing criteria and nomination process shall be maintained during vetting (*to be followed by SAC Co-Chairs*).
3. Dr. James Morumbedzi (Officer in Charge of ACPC) introduced himself as a new member of the Oversight Board replacing Dr. Fatima Denton.
4. The Oversight Board also announced that they accepted the nomination of Prof. Richard Anyah as the 16th member following recommendation put forth by the SAC at their second meeting on 17-18 March 2016. Many thanks shall also be extended to him by writing a letter for doing a fantastic work in the CR4D Secretariat since its inception (*to be followed by the oversight board and the secretariat*);
5. Dr. Fatima Denton shall be acknowledged by writing a letter for her unyielding contributions in the establishment of the CR4D secretariat, hosting the secretariat, and for committing seed money to cover the coordinator salary;
6. DiFD will be thanked for support from the WISER project by letter

PROGRESS REPORT BY THE CR4D SECRETARIAT

Prof. Richard Anyah circulated a summary report on the progress of major activities accomplished by the Secretariat since March 2016. He also clarified that he had prepared a handover note/summary which was sent to the OIC of ACPC and also circulated to the other Oversight Board members (AMCOMET, GFCS, and WMO) prior to the end of his tenure on 24 September 2016.

He pointed out that the Secretariat has *three on-going CR4D projects* namely:

1. **Regional Pilot Research Project on Sub-Seasonal to Seasonal Forecasts in the Perspective of Building Climate Information Services in Central Africa.** Four consultants from the University of Cameroon, Department of Meteorology (Cameroon and DRC), and CIFOR were hired to carry out this project. They have submitted two progress reports based on the agreed implementation plan.
2. **Regional Pilot Research Project on Sub-Seasonal to Seasonal Forecasts in the Perspective of Building Climate Information Services in West Africa.** Three consultants from Senegal Met Service, AGRHYMET and University Assane Seck of Ziguinchor, Ghana were hired to conduct this project. He stressed that this team has delivered one progress report, which was returned for them to revise.
3. **Mapping of climate and related research: Institutions, Initiatives and Expert/Expertise.** He described that the senior consultant has delivered two reports and the interactive google map that shows institutions, experts, and initiatives over the past 10 years.

He also described the following as completed activities by the secretariat

1. **Regional Climate Research Partnership Workshop for East Africa (RCRP-EA) conducted in Nairobi from 30-31 March 2016.** Over 50 participants from six countries were participated. Interim Regional Climate Research Coordination Team formed to develop a multi-disciplinary participatory climate research and outreach focused on identifying, co-designing and co-resourcing priority user-inspired climate research that can translate into improved quality and access to climate information and services for policy making and development planning. Concept note and project outline for potential multi-disciplinary, user-driven pilot project on the nexus between climate change, renewable energy and food security in Eastern Africa developed.
2. **Regional Climate Research Partnership Workshop for Southern Africa (RCRP-SA) conducted in Gaborone on 25-26 May 2016,** with the primary objective of scoping and assessing of user-driven climate research priorities for Southern Africa and initiating Multi-Stakeholder Collaborative Partnership for effective integration of new research into applications. Interim Regional Climate Research Coordination Team formed and the concept note and project outline for potential multi-disciplinary, user-driven pilot project on improving reliability and access of sub-seasonal to seasonal (S2S) climate forecasts for application in the agriculture sector in Southern Africa developed.

Completed activities by the Secretariat...

3. **Convening the first SAC meeting in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 16-18 March 2016** (A meeting report circulated among different organs of CR4D);
4. **Development of the prototype for the CR4D website** (the prototype was displayed);
5. **Preparations for the CR4D SAC and Oversight Board Joint Meeting** including the development of the concept note and agenda and logistical arrangements.

He also stressed that the following activities should be undertaken by the secretariat (to be followed by the Secretariat)

- a. Development of the concept note and Agenda for CR4D side-event at COP22;
- b. Development of a 5-year Strategic Plan for CR4D;
- c. Mobilization of resources for CR4D secretariat and its activities;
- d. Provision of guidance for recruited consultants and follow-up their project activities;
- e. CR4D Mapper to produce the final report on the mapping of climate research institutions, initiatives and experts by early January 2017;
- f. Contractors to produce two final reports of the S2S pilot project over Central and Western Africa by early January 2017;
- g. Updating/Populating CR4D web-portal with relevant information/documents;
- h. Maintaining strong communications with the Oversight Board, the SAC Co-chairs, and the whole membership

Recommendations

- There must be a way that SAC members can have a footprint in the ongoing projects. This can be done retrospectively by reviewing and improving their contents (to be followed by SAC co-chairs and the secretariat);
- The CR4D website link shall be circulated among the SAC members for comments (to be followed by the Secretariat);
- The research topics identified during the two RCRP workshops should be developed fully to secure funds from the WISER phase II or other sources;
- Information sharing and communication was not sufficient between different organs of CR4D. However, the current exercise of sharing files via a drop box shall be continued;
- CR4D RCRP Workshops, similar to those held in Nairobi and Gaborone, should be organized for the Northern Africa sub-region in order to identify priority research topic;
- The mapping study is a great start for CR4D and the report/interactive google maps should show institutions, initiatives and experts in all sub-regions;

THE CR4D 5-YEAR STRATEGY PLAN

The proposed for for the 5-year strategic plan was circulated among the meeting participants. The ToR was developed based on 5-Year CR4D Strategic Goals developed by Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC). This draft proposal has nine areas of focus, which demand further development:-

- I. Identifying gaps in data and research;
- II. Developing a strategy for the on-going and emerging climate and related research issues in Africa;
- III. Developing strategy for enhancing Weather and Climate Services for policy and development planning in Africa;
- IV. Developing strategy on engaging more African climate researchers and stakeholders in the IPCC Assessment Reports;
- V. Developing strategy for dissemination of evidence-based climate information and knowledge;
- VI. Developing strategy for Regional Research Partnerships;
- VII. Developing strategy for forums to promote on-going Climate Science-Policy Dialogue;
- VIII. Developing strategy for capacity development; and
- IX. Developing strategy on resource mobilization.

To develop the strategic plan, three options were proposed and discussed thoroughly during the Joint Oversight Board and SAC meeting as follows:-

1. Recruit a potential consultant by advertising the proposed ToR.
2. SAC to suggest three names based on their past record; and
3. Form subcommittee from the SAC.

Recommendations

After a thorough discussion, the following were agreed:

- Option 3 (**forming the sub-committee from the SAC**) was selected as a way forward. The subcommittee was formed on voluntary basis. This committee comprises of the CR4D secretariat (ACPC); SAC Co-chairs; Dr. Arame Tall (GFCS); Prof. Richard Anyah (Univ. Connecticut)); Ms. Jay Wilson (AMCOMET); Dr. Boram Lee (WCRP); Dr. Ernest Afiesimamo (WMO). The SAC Co-chairs and the secretariat should be responsible to coordinate and track the document;
- All proposed areas of focus should be addressed fully by taking into account the ACC 2013 recommendations and aspirations for CR4D;
- The development process should not be dictated by development partners/donors.
- A regular supervision and high level direction from the Oversight Board is needed;

CR4D SIDE-EVENT AT COP22

The sac and oversight board agreed the following:

- CR4D shall have its own side-event at COP22. The focus of this side event shall be “the impact of 1.5/2 degree on socio economic sectors of Africa”. This concept note should also look “how national INDCs relates/influences regional issues’ and be designed to attract donors;
- The concept note to be developed by the Secretariat and circulated among SAC members and Oversight Board members for possible inputs by the end of the last week of October 2016 (*to be followed up by SAC co-chairs!*);
- Two options were considered to secure space at COP22 (the African Pavilion and ICPAC) (*to be followed up by the Secretariate*).

DISCUSSION ON ICP AND SAC TORS

The original tors were discussed and some amendments made. In general, the following were agreed:

1. SAC is the custodian of science while ICP is the platform where science meets with the users. Hence, ICP will provide information for consideration while SAC advises CR4D on the research priorities. This research priority should, however, align with the agenda of the continent while addressing the emerging issues related to climate;

2. Communication with ICP shall be done via the secretariat;
3. The development partners in the organograms should be moved to ICP column;
4. RCCs and RECs should be part of the ICP;
5. ICP shall meet once a year preferably back-to-back with CCDA;
6. The SAC meeting shall be done twice a year (one meeting back-to-back CCDA and the other in February/March). The venue for the second meeting can be decided by the SAC members in consultation with the secretariat.

CR4D GOVERNANCE

Participants discussed the reason for establishing the CR4D Platform during the ACC 2013:

- It was to enable African Scientists to come together to provide leadership on climate research in Africa.
- The CR4D Secretariat established at ACPC following a consensus during a consultative meeting in Marrakech, on the margins of CCDA-IV;
- Fundamental issues discussed in the process were
 - * need for defining concept and deliverable activities;
 - * African scientists should address African problems;
 - * Means to enhance capacity for Climate science through journal publishing and partnership.

Reviewing of the Current MoU

Participants realized that the existing signed MoU between UNECA and WMO has constrained the operationalization of the Secretariat. Hence,

- they agreed that this MoU shall be reviewed by March 2017 for possible amendment.
- Dr. Arame and Prof. Anyah will be part of the reviewing subcommittee (*to be followed by the Secretariat!*).

Recruitment of CR4D Coordinator

The contract for the interim coordinator was expired on 24 September 2016. Hence, there is a sense of urgency to recruit the coordinator to perform the Secretariat activities. GFCS promised to commit resource for one year to the recruit coordinator or promised to deploy someone to serve as coordinator. After a thorough discussion, the following decision made:

- The joint meeting participants applauded the promise of funding made by GFCS and requested ACPC to proceed with the necessary formalities to recruitment the coordinator (*to be followed by the Oversight Board!*);
- The ToR for the coordinator position shall be circulated among the SAC member for their inputs (*to be followed by the secretariat*).
- Dr. James Murombedzi (OIC, ACPC) assured the Oversight Board and SAC that the ACPC WISER Coordinator (Dr. Joseph Intisful) will temporarily take charge of CR4D coordination role until the Coordinator is hired.

SUSTAINABILITY OF THE CR4D SECRETARIAT

Given the current situations (absence of fixed-term coordinator, limited fund availability, lack of quasi-independent Secretariat, lack of support staff, etc), the following were agreed:

- Collective responsibility on fund raising is needed from all founding members to support the CR4D secretariat;
- A strong and independent Secretariat with core staff is needed to function (*to be followed by all organs of CR4D*)
 - * *The coordinator:* Acknowledging the promise from GFCS, the recruitment of the Coordinator should be done quickly. Until that, Dr. Joseph Intisful will take charge of the CR4D coordination role, while search for a substantive Coordinator is going on.
 - * *The Researcher:* Dr. James Murombedzi informed and assured the meeting that process of renewing the contract of the current CR4D Researcher (Dr. Yosef Amha) is in advance stages, so that someone with memory of the progress of CR4D activities is available to assist the temporary coordinator on scientific related issues. The Oversight Board and SAC members thanked him for ensuring the contract for the existing researcher is to be extended to maintain the momentum of on-going CR4D activities and programs.
 - * *The Admin Assistant...*to assist the Coordinator on administrative related issues
 - * *IT support and content manager...*to update/upgrade the CR4D website and its content

RECOMMENDATION ON THE FUTURE DIRECTION OF CR4D

- The Secretariat should be an independent body and will be accountable for the Oversight Board;
- The coordinator shall report to the Oversight Board on quarterly basis. But for the routine and day-to-day reporting purpose, the Coordinator shall report to the ACPC coordinator who represents the Oversight Board.
- Strong and sustained communication should be maintained between different organs of CR4D. CR4D initiative should be autonomous
- The CR4D should establish a link with WCRP with a focus on Africa (*to be followed by the secretariat, WMO-AMECOMET and WRCP*);
- The CR4D should identify institutions that carry out research in Africa, establish partnership, come-up with user-driven research priorities.
- The research priorities should align with Agenda 2063 and national agendas; and build capacity on 'impact based forecasting' and improve climate data exchange (*to be followed by SAC and the secretariat*);
- mobilize African scientists to exploit the impact of 2/1.5 °C warming on Africa, define regional interest, and explore trans-boundary issues with national INDCs;
- mobilize resources by organizing a donor forum more quickly. Use also COP22 CR4D side-event as a platform to mobilize resources for CR4D (*to be followed by the secretariat!*),
- Complete the preparation of the 5-years strategic plan and implementation plan;
- look opportunities from ClimDev -Africa Phase II and WISER phase II using the above research priorities as entry point.

HIGHLIGHT ON WCRP WORK

Dr. Boram lee highlighted the key WCRP initiatives that have relevance to future interaction between CR4D and the WCRP. She stated that the science agenda of WCRP is based on key challenges and has initiated a program to define the scope for regional activities. WCRP emphasizes working with partners by dividing its scoping team as follows:

- i. fundamental climate science
- ii. Transdisciplinary engagement
- iii. application-inspired climate science

WCRP also emphasized partnering with regional partners for regions climate assessment feeding scientific knowledge into climate actions. WCRP is developing **African impact Atlas** based on “when the region will reach 1.5/2 degree in the RCP 2.6 and RCP 8.5 scenarios” similar to Impact2C web Atlas for Europe.

Possible interaction/alignment between WCRP and CR4D were discussed as follows:

- Since WCRP regional activities involve creation of reliable climate information for the regions by focusing on enhancing the scientific basis, there is a greater opportunity for CR4D to work with WCRP;
- CR4D to be a co-organizer with WCRP in the up-coming training workshop in data rescue and monitoring of climate extremes (Gaborone, Botswana, 2017). The purpose of this workshop is to digitalize historical data and use existing tools to develop climate extreme. The CR4D SAC members recommended that the RCCs should also take a leading role. Dr. Mukabana also recommended that the issues of capacity development should be taken up by WMO education Division (*AMCOMET to follow*).

VOTE OF THANKS

The incoming interim coordinator, Dr. Joseph Intisful, thanked participants for holding fruitful discussion on various issues. He stressed the need for urgent resource mobilization for the secretariat to fulfill its mission. Finally, he reaffirmed ACPC commitment to support the CR4D secretariat.

Meeting Agenda

**Joint SAC and Oversight Board Meeting
20-21, October 2016**

DAY 1		
Friday (20 Oct. 2016)		
14:00-14:30	Registration	
14:30-14:50	Welcoming Remarks by CR4D Oversight Board	Dr. James Murombedzi , OIC, ACPC, UNECA Dr. Joseph Mukabana , Director, AMCOMET Secretariat and WMO Regional Office for Africa and Least Developed Countries
14:50-15:00	Introduction of SAC Members to the Oversight Board	Participants
15:00-15:30	Report by SAC Co-chairs	SAC Co-chairs
15:30-15:50	Coffee/Tea break (Group Photo)	
15:50-16:30	Reviewing progress of CR4D activities as of September 2016	CR4D Former Coordinator
16:30-18:00	5-Year CR4D Strategic Plan	CO-Chairs
DAY 2		
(Saturday (21 Oct. 2016))		
09:00-10:30	5-Year CR4D Strategic Plan	CO-Chairs
10:30-10:45	CR4D side-event at COP22	SAC Co-Chairs & CR4D Former Coordinator
10:45-11:15	Tea/Coffee	
11:15-12:00	WCRP activities: Update on the ongoing WCRP-UNFCCC proposal for systematic African climate assessment	Dr. Boram Lee , WCRP
12:00-13:00	Sustaining momentum on CR4D RCRP platforms Discussions & Recommendations	SAC Co-Chairs & CR4D Former Coordinator
13:30-14:30	Lunch	
14:30-15:30	Joint meeting of SAC and the Oversight Board discussion on <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Announcement on endorsement: SAC and ICP Tors; SAC and ICP members; • CR4D governance, • CR4D future directions • CR4D proposed side event at COP22 • Resource mobilization for CR4D 	Dr. Joseph Mukabana
15:30-15:50	Tea/Coffee	
15:50-17:20	Joint meeting of SAC and the Oversight Board discussion on <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Announcement on endorsement: SAC and ICP Tors; SAC and ICP members; • CR4D governance, • CR4D future directions • CR4D proposed side event at COP22 • Resource mobilization for CR4D 	Dr. Joseph Mukabana
17:20-17:30	Closing Remarks	Dr. James Murombedzi Dr. Joseph Mukabana

Joint Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) and Oversight Board Meeting
Venue: UNCC, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Date: 20-21 October 2016
List of Participants

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