











Acting now to reinvigorate global action on climate change

The Africa Regional Conference of the Global Climate Change Alliance (GCCA) is taking place on the 12th of October 2010, in Addis Ababa, as a pre-event of the Seventh African Development Forum (ADF-VII).

The Global Climate Change Alliance, an initiative launched in 2007 by the European Commission, intends to deepen dialogue and cooperation on climate change between the European Union and poor developing countries most vulnerable to climate change, in particular Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS). These countries are hardest hit by the adverse effects of climate change while they have the least capacity to react and adapt to those climate impacts.

As the ADF-VII is an opportunity to develop concrete development strategies for Africa which is particularly vulnerable to climate change, the GCCA can provide answers and assistance to match this objective by offering means of mainstreaming climate change in development strategies and promoting dialogue among countries and stakeholders in order to reach a global agreement on climate change.

In line with this year theme of the ADF-VII "Acting on Climate Change for Sustainable Development in Africa", the Global Climate Change Alliance aims to support mainstreaming climate change in Africa's development. Since 2008, the GCCA has already assisted six African countries — Seychelles, Mauritius, Rwanda, Senegal, Mali and Tanzania- for a total amount of 21.5 million Euros. In addition, regional support for Africa is approved for an amount of 24 million Euros. Preparation is ongoing for additional countries in 2010 and 2011.

On the other hand, the ADF-VII provides also a broad multi-stakeholder platform to discuss Africa's concerns and interests in preparation of the 16th Conference of Parties of the United Nations Climate Change Convention (UNFCCC) to be held in Cancun, Mexico in December 2010.

The GCCA, as one of the instruments of the EU to fulfil its commitment towards developing country priorities, especially in Africa, contributes through its political dialogue activities to finding common positions in the search of a robust post-Kyoto agreement, by addressing issues such as access to carbon markets for Africa, capacity building and other development related to water, agriculture or technology development and transfer, etc.

The ADF-VII and its GCCA event are therefore a great opportunity to further enhance the dialogue between the European Union and its African partners. It will be a perfect occasion to learn high level speakers' insight in the current status of the international climate negotiations and their possible implications for Africa, to exchange views and to provide concrete guidance and suggestions on financial and technical support to assist partner countries to cope with climate change, and to integrate climate change in wider development and poverty reduction strategies.

For more information, please visit our website at WWW.GCCA.eu







