

Climate Research for Development in Africa (CR4D)

Scientific Advisory Committee Meeting

17-18 March 2016

United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (Africa Hall)

Concept

1. Overview

The Climate Research for Development (CR4D) in Africa initiative was officially launched in 2015 to strengthen links between climate science research and climate information needs and thus enhance integrating climate change into policy and development planning in Africa. CR4D is an African-led initiative supported by partnership between African Climate Policy Center (ACPC) of UN Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), African Ministerial Conference on Meteorology (AMCOMET), World Meteorological Organization (WMO), and Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS). The initiative facilitates integration of the Africa climate research community (scientists and institutions) with end-user climate information needs. The Secretariat is located at the African Climate Policy Centre (ACPC). The CR4D collaborative platform promotes multi-stakeholder collaboration that brings climate science, services and policy-making under a coordinated multi-disciplinary network of expertise and institutions to collectively address the challenges while maximizing on the opportunities presented by climate change and variability to socio-economic Development in Africa. It promotes participatory climate research by facilitating and strengthening networking capacities of institutions and stakeholders to enable and enhance co-production of demand-driven climate information and services. This will lead to improved access, quality, usability, dissemination and mainstreaming of climate information/knowledge into socio-economic planning, and critical for Africa's meeting commitments under the COP21 agreement, Agenda 2063, as well as the SDGs.

The overarching mission of CR4D is to facilitate a Pan-Africa Collaborative Platform and Network of African climate science, services, policy, and practice communities as well as development partners and other stakeholders to co-explore, co-design, co-produce and co-communicate climate information and services, thus improving access, quality, and usability as well as mainstreaming of climate information into Development Planning in Africa

CR4D Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC), in conjunction with the Secretariat, the Institutional Collaboration Platform, and the Oversight Board, supports implementation of the CR4D initiative. The primary role of SAC is to play a leading role in the periodic review and identification of priority user-driven applied climate research activities to ensure the achievement of CR4D goal of enhancing co-design and co-production of climate information and services through an integrated and collaborative network of multiple stakeholders and institutions. 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.

Therefore the specific objectives of upcoming SAC meeting include; -

- Reviewing progress of CR4D activities over the last six months
- Electing the SAC, Chair or Co-chairs
- Drafting a framework for 2°Africa2020 Assessment Plan
- Discussing and recommending Key CR4D Strategic Goals and Timeline for completing 5-Year Strategic Plan
- Developing a framework for the establishment of African Journal of Climate Research and Policy to enable young and early career climate scientists based in African institutions find an outlet for publishing their research
 - Editorial and Review Structure
 - Resources
- Providing input and recommendations on the Preliminary list potential nominees to the CR4D Institutional Collaboration Platform (ICP)
- Developing an outline, framework, and timeline for drafting the 5-Year (2016-2020) CR4D Strategic Plan

2. Expected Outputs

The key outputs of the SAC Meeting will include;-

- Election of CR4D SAC Chair/Co-Chairs
- Draft Framework of Proposed 2°Africa2020 Assessment Plan (ready for circulation to all CR4D Stakeholders for input)
 - SAC sub-committee:
 - Post COP21 Agreement 2oAfrica2020 Assessment
 - Draft Framework for the establishment of Journal for publishing climate research and policy articles
 - SAC sub-committee:
 - African Journal of Climate Research and Policy
 - Editorial and Review Structure
 - Resources
- Draft Outline and Timeline for CR4D 5-Year Strategic Plan (2016-2020)

3. Meeting Format

The 15 CR4D SAC members will attend the meeting. In addition two members of the Oversight Board (representing ACPC and AMCOMET) will also officiate the opening and closing of the meeting.

3.1 Meeting Format

The meeting will take place for two full days.

Day 1

- Review of the progress: achievements and challenges of CR4D implementation over the last 6 months (from June 2015 when the Secretariat was set up at ACPC)
- Discussions on the feedbacks and recommendations from the CR4D Side Events at CCDA-V (Zimbabwe) and COP21 (Paris)
- Discuss the criteria for ICP Nominations, and the preliminary list of potential nominees
- CR4D Initiative on 2°Africa2020 Assessment Plan

Day 2

- Conclude discussions on ICP Nominations/Nominees
- Discuss the process and procedures for drafting the 5-Year Strategic Plan
- Recommendations and closing of meeting

CR4D is funded by

