



Economic Commission
for Africa



African Union
Commission



African Development
Bank

ClimDev-Africa

**UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA**

Original: **ENGLISH**

The first Climate Change and Development
in Africa (CCDA-1) Conference

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
17-19 October 2011

Theme: Development First: Addressing Climate Change in Africa

Annotated Agenda

1. Opening ceremony

The MC will introduce the speakers of the opening ceremony and invite the Chairperson of the African Union Commission (AUC) to deliver the welcoming address following which the Minister of Finance of the Federal Republic of Nigeria will be invited to deliver a Keynote Address. The opening remarks will be delivered by the Guest of Honor from the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia.

2. High Level Dialogue on Development First: Addressing Climate Change in Africa

The High Level Dialogue on the theme of the Conference “*Development First: Addressing Climate Change in Africa*” setting the stage will broadly underscore Africa’s development challenges in the context of climate change including how African countries are leading the climate change agenda, what this means for the continent’s future and Africa’s climate change negotiating position. More specifically, the dialogue will bring out the opportunities that pursuing REDD+ as a development option offers. In this regard, South-South experience from Guyana will be shared alongside insights on the economic and social challenges of forest management from Liberia and the Democratic Republic of Congo will be emphasized by this session. The dialogue will also explore how to achieve Africa’s development agenda given the reality of climate change, with an emphasis on agriculture, food security, economic growth and transformation, the social impact and the adaptations required.

3. Discussions of sub-themes:

The discussions at CCDA-1 will be around four interrelated on sub-themes closely aligned to the Climate Change priorities of Africa to underscore the close link between climate change and development in Africa. The sub-themes laying the groundwork for the dialogue during the three day meeting will be organized in plenary sessions to provide the bigger issues and opportunities by raising the key themes, issues and options to stimulate in-depth discussion in three concurrent breakout sessions per sub-theme. The following sub-themes and related topics will be covered:

a. Sub-theme 1 “*Climate Science, Data, Information and Service Delivery*”

This plenary session will highlight the need for scientifically established facts and knowledge through climate science, having in place sound data, information and service delivery mechanisms for Africa to reach a common understanding of the evidences, the extent of the impact on its economic growth, social development and serves as basis to adopt action oriented response to addressing climate change in Africa. These will be deepened through parallel breakout sessions clustered around the following topics:

- **Topic 1.1: Climate Science (policy, practice and research)**
- **Topic 1.2: Lessons learned from various Initiatives**
- **Topic 1.3: Data and Information**

b. Sub-theme 2: Climate Resilient Development and Adaptation

Sub-theme 2 will focus on the major issues related to climate resilient development and adaptation in Africa including the socio economic challenges and risks posed by climate induced hazards and disasters, the monitoring measures and the analytically informed policy response for good climate risk management. Particular emphasis will be placed on key livelihood sectors such as agriculture, water and health to underscore the importance of countries adopting climate resilient development and adaptation measures. This will be further explored through the three parallel breakout sessions as follows:

- **Topic 2.1: Socio-ecological Resilience and Climate Vulnerability**
- **Topic 2.2: Climate Change and Water**
- **Topic 2.3: Climate Change and Agriculture**

c. Sub-themes 3: “Low Carbon Development for Africa”

As Africa seeks to explore low-carbon development within the context of the green economy, this session will address the African energy access challenges, improvement of forest governance to capitalize on REDD+ financing, identify opportunities in LULUCF across Africa and highlight best practices to enhance carbon sequestration and reduced emissions. To expand on the issues, further discussion will be held by three breakout groups on the following:

- **Topic 3.1: Green economy in the context of Africa**
- **Topic 3.2: Energy access and poverty**
- **Topic 3.3: REDD+ and LULUCF**

d. Sub-theme 4: Economics and Finance

Discussion under this sub-theme will underscore the need to strike a balance between efforts on climate action and meeting immediate development imperatives. It will place particular emphasis on the economic challenges, opportunities and search for effective actions including innovative financing mechanisms, harnessing the institutional requirements and human capacities to adapt

and cope with climate change within a sustainable economic growth and poverty reduction context. These will be further elaborated under the following:

- **Topic 4.1: Economics of Adaptation in the Context of Africa**
- **Topic 4.2: Climate finance and Green Fund**
- **Topic 4.3: Building capacities for Climate Change: Roles & Experience of RECs & Member States.**

4. Consideration of Key Recommendations

The reports summarizing key conclusions and recommendations from the discussions on each of the four sub-themes will be presented in this plenary session, including policy implications emerging from the parallel sessions. The participants will deliberate on the results and propose amendments to enhance the recommendations of the parallel sessions.

5. Closing Session

A representative of the co-organizing institutions will deliver the closings remarks and declare the Africa first climate change and development in Africa conference closed.