



# CLIMATE INFORMATION FOR DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA

## CLIMDEV-AFRICA

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

OCTOBER 2010



African Union  
Commission



African Development  
Bank



Economic Commission  
for Africa



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FOR DEVELOPMENT  
IN AFRICA

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# 1

**Will build lasting policy capacity to adequately respond to the challenges of climate change, adding distinct value to the many ongoing activities related to climate change in the region.**

## FOREWORD

Lack of appropriate climate information and services hampers efforts at adequately mainstreaming climate change concerns into development planning in Africa. Consequently, government institutions, development practitioners and service providers engaged in climate sensitive sectors are unable to effectively manage climate risks and to link climate change concerns to development imperatives. For a continent where so many lives, livelihoods and even whole national economies depend on climate-sensitive sectors, it is unacceptable that so little use is made of routine climate information to guide management decisions in climate sensitive sectors.

To address this state of affairs, the African Union Commission, the African Development Bank and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, have jointly developed the Climate for Development in Africa Programme (ClimDev-Africa). The Programme aims to guide the effective integration of climate information and services into development planning and to ensure the mainstreaming of climate considerations into policies and programmes directed at achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and sustainable development in Africa. ClimDev-Africa will bring to bear the collective efforts of these three key African institutions to foster a common and coordinated response to climate change throughout the continent.

ClimDev-Africa will, in particular, build the capacities of relevant African institutions for enhanced information generation and analysis and policy-making. The Programme will thus build lasting policy capacity to adequately respond to the challenges of climate change, adding distinct value to the many ongoing activities related to climate change in the region. As a strategic complement to those programmes and other initiatives that seek to fund directly adaptation projects and activities, ClimDev-Africa will focus on enabling climate-related information for multi-stakeholder decision-making and funding pre-investment activities. The initial beneficiaries of the Programme will be Regional Economic Communities, regional climate, weather and water organisations (including River Basin Organisations), national governments and institutions, including parliaments and National Meteorological and Hydrological Services, NGOs/CSOs, and African climate negotiators among others.

We trust that ClimDev-Africa will serve as an important catalyst for changing the way climate change is addressed in Africa, and for ensuring a more coordinated approach to mainstreaming climate change concerns into Africa's sustainable development agenda. We call on all to join hands for a successful implementation of ClimDev-Africa.

Jean Ping  
Chairman  
African Union  
Commission

Donald Kaberuka  
President  
African Development  
Bank

Abdoulie Janneh  
Executive Secretary  
United Nations Economic  
Commission for Africa

# 2

**ClimDev-Africa will construct a solid foundation in Africa for the response to climate change, building on solid science and observational infrastructure, enabling strong working partnerships between government institutions, private sector, civil society and vulnerable communities, and creating and strengthening of knowledge frameworks to support and integrate the actions required.**

## 2. Background and Justification

Climate Information for Development in Africa (ClimDev-Africa) Programme is a joint initiative of the African Union Commission (AUC), the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) and the African Development Bank (AfDB). The programme has been mandated at regional meetings of African Heads of State and Government, as well as by Africa's Ministers of Finance, Planning, Economic Development, and Environment.

The programme responds to the urgent challenge that climate variability and change pose to the achievement of Africa's sustainable development objectives. Although the continent contributes less than 4% of total greenhouse gas emissions, Africa's countries are among the most vulnerable to climate change impacts. Africa will suffer earliest and hardest because of weaker resilience and greater reliance on climate-sensitive sectors like agriculture. The average economic costs of climate change in Africa could be equivalent to 1.5 - 3% of GDP each year by 2030, and rising, in the absence of an international agreement on emissions.

The ClimDev-Africa programme has been under development since April 2006. Its scope has expanded from solely addressing the need for greatly improved climate information for Africa to also strengthening the use of such information for decision-making, by improving analytical capacity, knowledge management and dissemination activities. This came about after a realisation that information alone would not lead to effective policies.

The programme therefore seeks to overcome the lack of necessary information, analysis and options required by policy and decision-makers at all levels. ClimDev-Africa will construct a solid foundation in Africa for the response to climate change, building on solid science and observational infrastructure, enabling strong working partnerships between government institutions, private sector, civil society and vulnerable communities, and creating and strengthening of knowledge frameworks to support and integrate the actions required.

ClimDev-Africa will strengthen Africa's climate and development institutions at regional, subregional and national levels. It will also assist in sound policy-making based on information and analyses on policy options. The programme will improve climate practices in sectoral institutions through enhanced policy environments and contribute to addressing the present weaknesses in both demand for, and supply of, pertinent climate services, which have contributed to the limited use of climate data in development processes in Africa. In this regard, the programme will seek to engage regional and national meteorological and hydrological services (NMHS) in the national development agendas with a view to bridging the disconnection between climate services and development priorities. ClimDev-Africa will contribute to rectifying the current situation where there is little use of climate information in development practices.

# 3

**The ultimate beneficiaries will be: those rural communities with climate sensitive livelihoods, especially, rain-fed farmers, food insecure communities, communities vulnerable to malaria and other climate sensitive diseases, communities dependent on uncertain water and other natural resources, communities at risk of disasters, and communities with poor energy access.**

## 3. Programme Stakeholders and Beneficiaries

ClimDev-Africa is a continental programme with a reach down to the lowest levels. The immediate beneficiaries will be the group of “Policy Makers” that ClimDev serves. These are: Regional Economic Communities (RECs); River Basin Organisations (RBOs); National governments (including NMHs); Parliamentarians; African negotiators; and, in between, policy makers and policy supporters.

This group of policy makers is supported with knowledge, decision support and recommendations from a group of beneficiaries here called “Policy Support”: Civil society; universities and research institutes; mass media; financial institutions (banks, insurances, stock markets); local authorities; and, when called upon, International organisations in a knowledge and know-how support function.

Through these bodies, the programme seeks to increase the resilience of Africa’s population to climate change, enabling effective adaptation activities.

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# 4

**ClimDev-Africa Programme has received strong political endorsement from the AU Heads of State and Government and the International Community.**

## 4. Programme Mandate

ClimDev-Africa Programme has received strong political endorsement from the AU Heads of State and Government and the International Community. The programme preparation and planning process entailed the following:

- (i) The Global Climate Observing Systems (GCOS) and UNECA Addis Ababa April 2006 Stakeholders workshop, which formulated the Strategy and Action Plan for “Climate for Development in Africa”;
- (ii) The Africa Union Eighth Ordinary Session held in January 2007, which endorsed the April 2006 Action Plan, and urged “Member States and RECs, in collaboration with the private sector, civil society and development partners, to integrate climate change considerations into development strategies and programmes at national and regional levels”. The Session requested “the African Union Commission, the Economic Commission for Africa and the African Development Bank to develop and implement the Action Plan and to report on progress biannually”;
- (iii) A Special Working Group, including 25 eminent experts in Climate and Development, convened by AUC on 18-19 March 2008 in Addis-Ababa to provide further input into programme design;
- (iv) The approval of the establishment of African Climate Policy Centre (ACPC) by the First Joint Annual Meeting of the African Union Conference of Ministers on the Economy and Finance, and the UNECA Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development held in April 2008 in Addis Ababa; and
- (v) The endorsement from the 12th Session of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN) in Johannesburg 10-12 June 2008. This 12th Session specifically supported “the process of developing the ClimDev-Africa programme” and requested “AUC, UNECA and AfDB to accelerate the finalisation of the programme document and the dissemination of this information to ensure the participation of AMCEN in the Climate for Development in Africa programme”. The Session went on “to welcome and support the establishment of the ACPC at the UNECA, emphasising its role in supporting the integration of climate change into economic development and planning processed in Africa, and to call upon UNEP, WMO and other relevant institutions to play an active role in this initiative”.



# 5

**Widely available and disseminated reliable and high-quality climate information.**

## 5. Programme Description (Goal, Results, Activities and Inputs)

The ClimDev-Africa Programme super goal is: Sustainable attainment of poverty reduction and other MDGs in Africa.

The overall expected accomplishment of the programme is that “Policies and decisions on practices in Africa take full account of climate change risks and opportunities at all levels (regional, sub-regional, national, local, community and individual).”

The ClimDev Programme purpose for the Inception and 1st Phase (1+3 years) is: to strengthen the institutional capacities of national, sub regional and regional bodies to make climate-sensitive policies effectively.

ClimDev-Africa is organised into three result areas (or components).

**a). Results area one:** Widely available and disseminated reliable and high-quality climate information. The objective of this first results area is to ensure that policy makers across Africa, policy support organisations and the population at large have access to comprehensive and understood climate information. Under this results area, ClimDev-Africa will support the upgrading of observation networks and infrastructure in order to enhance the provision of essential data for climate services, policy and best practice development for ACC. This programme component will also include support to capacity building, assessment and research on early warning systems, seasonal forecasting and long term continental, sub-regional and further downscaled climate projections and scenarios.

Activities under this results area will include:

- (i) Rescue historical meteorological and hydrological data;
- (ii) Data management of climate and hydrological data;
- (iii) Upgrade telecom, observation and data collection systems for upper air and surface networks;
- (iv) Quality monitoring of greenhouse gases, air quality, inland lakes, African oceans, coastal environments and glaciers;
- (v) Hydrological observations and data management;
- (vi) Detect and attribute carbon sources and sinks;
- (vii) Early warning and seasonal forecasting;
- (viii) Long-term climate projections and scenarios; and
- (ix) Climate information packaging for all climate sensitive sectors and end users.

Africa’s climate, weather and water organizations, including the NMHs, are the main beneficiaries under this results area.

**(b). Results area two:** Quality analysis for decision support and management practice. The objective of this results area is to generate enhanced scientific capacity producing effective and quality policy-supporting analyses and best practices on

**Quality analysis for  
decision support  
and management  
practice.**

different levels (regional to local). In this results area, quality policy support, including efficient sharing of information, climate change impact assessments and decision support tools for adaptive management will be provided primarily by the research communities of Africa. Importantly, this results area also involves identification of best practices in climate-sensitive sectors, which, through communication and networking, will result in local community involvement towards preparedness for extreme weather events and for adaptation to climate change. The component will also ensure production, communication and dissemination of useable and accessible information packages, enabling local communities with information to continue to better adapt to an ever-changing climate. Hence, all supported projects will have and follow an outreach plan.

The activities of this results area include the following:

- (i) Institutional capacity mapping followed by capacity building;
- (ii) Knowledge management system for shared information, knowledge, experience and best practice;
- (iii) Risk, vulnerability, impact and cost/benefit analyses and assessments;
- (iv) Development of decision support tools for policy making and adaptive management;
- (v) Policy reviews identifying policy areas for improvements;
- (vi) Identification, analysis and recommendations of policy options;
- (vii) Best practices for climate change preparedness on all levels (for application down to community and individual use);
- (viii) Policies for national implementation of international conventions;
- (ix) Scientific and best practice outreach to all levels (for application down to community and individual use); and
- (x) Knowledge support to African negotiators.

**(c). Results area three:** Informed decision-making, awareness and advocacy. Under this results area, ClimDev-Africa will contribute to policy dialogue and support ACC and development policymaking processes at the continental, sub-regional, national and local levels. It will strengthen sub-regional and national development programmes through drafting and implementation of policies that integrate ACC. It will also promote best practices for mitigation and adaptation to climate change. The Programme will continuously enhance the application of best practices through sustained continental knowledge sharing, and sharing of policy ideas and solutions. One of the most pressing activities of this result area is to facilitate Africa's contribution to the negotiations process on a post 2012 climate agreement through analytical studies and consultative workshops and providing support for the development and advancement of a common African position on climate issues. Activities of this results area include:

- (i) Capacity building and knowledge support to policy makers;
- (ii) Capacity building and knowledge support to negotiators;
- (iii) Capacity building of, and support from, RECs and SROs;
- (iv) Inclusive and informed policy-making;
- (v) Training and awareness-raising;
- (vi) Effective communication; and
- (vii) Outreach to all levels.

**Informed  
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Political leadership of ClimDev will be provided by the AUC, who will co-ordinate the Continental policy response and global negotiations. The African Development Bank will support the investment projects while ECA will lead in the policy interventions.

Results will be delivered in the three results areas above through three input areas, namely the African Climate Policy Centre (ACPC), the Climate Change and Desertification Control Unit at the AUC, and the ClimDev-Africa Special Fund (CDSF).

**Input Area A:** The African Climate Policy Center (ACPC), which has been established within UNECA as the ClimDev-Africa Secretariat. The ACPC will perform three key functions to enable ClimDev-Africa's objectives to be achieved: (i) enabling the development of Africa's climate policy capacity; (ii) ClimDev-Africa programme management functions, and (iii) performing Secretariat and administrative functions. Subject matter and sectoral impact assessments, thematic studies and synthesis work by ACPC will contribute to the results areas outlined above. ACPC programme management activities will include contribution to identification, preparation and feasibility studies of priority operational projects; regular supervisions of national/regional activities; mid-term review; project completion review; annual external audits; and contributions towards the cost of external evaluations.

**Input Area B:** The Climate Change and Desertification Control Unit at the AUC (AUC/CCDCU), whose establishment has been approved by the 13th Ordinary Session of the African Union Assembly of Heads of State and Government, held in July 2009, in Sirte, Libya. The Unit will serve as the institutional anchorage at the AUC for advancing Africa's common position on climate change, as well as serving as the technical arm for the AUC's mandate of providing political leadership in climate change matters, including on ClimDev-Africa.

**Input Area C:** The ClimDev-Africa Special Fund (CDSF) will provide a channel for demand-led funding of implementing agencies across Africa. Activities consistent with the achievement of the results areas objectives will be funded. The CDSF has been established in the African Development Bank. The CDSF Coordinating Unit will manage the fund's operation in accordance with Article 8 of the Bank and its own rules and regulations. Financial management of the CDSF will assure probity, economy, efficiency and effectiveness. The model proposed for the Fund's operation will clearly separate the technical and financial administration.

# 6

## **The Programme Executive Board of the AUC/ECA/AfDB Joint Secretariat and the Chair of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment**

## **6. Programme Governance**

The programme will be governed by the following organs:

The **Programme Executive Board** (PEB) of the AUC/ECA/AfDB Joint Secretariat and the Chair of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN) will provide the programme oversight function. The PEB will ensure that the vision, purpose and objectives of ClimDev-Africa are maintained. Final accountability for the operation of ClimDev-Africa will therefore rest with the PEB. The PEB shall receive the Annual Report of the operation of ClimDev-Africa (covering both activities and funding) as well as the minutes of all Steering Committee meetings.

Under the CEB will be the **Programme Steering Committee** (PSC), which will also act as **Governing Council and Board to the ACPC and the CDSF**. The PSC will provide technical oversight to the Programme by endorsing projects that qualify for funding by the CDSF and making decisions on the allocation of the resources of the Fund. In particular, the PSC shall:

- (i) Set strategic direction and exercise financial oversight over the ACPC and the CDSF;
- (ii) Be responsible for the approval and control of the ACPC and CDSF work plans and budgets;
- (iii) Review the annual reports of activities of the Centre and activities financed from the resources of the Fund.

The PSC shall be a multi-stakeholder organ composed of decision-making members (drawn from AUC, UNECA, AfDB and AMCEN) and other members with only an advisory role.

An **Annual Conference** will be held in order to ensure that linkages with all relevant stakeholders engaged in the ClimDev-Africa process are maintained. The annual conference will thus act as a forum for consultations around the operation of ClimDev-Africa, provide opportunities to exchange information and learn in relation to the operation of ClimDev-Africa and similar or related activities, and build coherence of ClimDev-Africa with other activities, among others.

In addition to these main organs, Technical Advisers as required will be called upon from a **Panel of Experts** to ensure that policy development and the technical review of proposals for funding complies with international best practice.

# 7

**ClimDev will be implemented in progressive phases. The vision is that once the core capacity is established in the ACPC to co-ordinate policymaking and manage ClimDev-Africa operations, engagement with and demand from the Regional Economic Communities and other regional weather and climate as well as River-Basin Organisations will increase.**

## 7. Implementation and Monitoring

ClimDev will be implemented in progressive phases. The vision is that once the core capacity is established in the ACPC to co-ordinate policymaking and manage ClimDev-Africa operations, engagement with and demand from the Regional Economic Communities and other regional weather and climate as well as River-Basin Organisations will increase.

**Phase One** includes the following indicative inception actions in 2010:

- (i) Putting in place the basic management capacity of the ACPC, including establishing the office at the ECA, recruiting staff (using the UN system and rules), initiating an ACPC website (using the ECA web management facilities), and drafting detailed project implementation documents and plans;
- (ii) Initiating policymaking activities also through operationalising the AUC Climate Change and Desertification Control Unit; and
- (iii) Setting up the ClimDev-Africa Special Fund, including finalising fund procedures and processes, criteria for approval of funding.

**Phase Two** will be embedding the functioning of ClimDev-Africa (2011-2013). This phase will entail deepening the work of the programme. Actions for years two, and three will be finalised during year one, with final plans agreed subsequent to the inception review to take place during the last quarter of year one. Monitoring and reporting of the programme will take place in three areas, namely the operation of the overall Programme; the activities funded by the ClimDev-Africa Special Fund; and the performance of administrative and financial functions.

The design of ClimDev-Africa has taken into account best practice and lessons learned in implementing wide-scale co-ordination of policy and programming. As such, the programme design responds to the critical lessons learned. The need to assure political will, ownership and accountability is met through the political commitment of African Heads of Government, Ministers of Finance and Planning, and Ministers of the Environment which has driven the

development of the programme.

The Joint Secretariat of the Chief Executives of the three African institutions and the Chair of AMCEN will provide direct oversight of the African Climate Policy Centre and the operation of the ClimDev-Africa Special Fund. This demonstrates the very best practice in terms of political ownership and accountability.

The joint management arrangements, where AUC, UNECA and AfDB collectively take decisions for the implementation of the activities, seek to ensure institutional coherence.

To deal with overlapping sub-regional mandates, the operation of ClimDev-Africa will take account of ongoing assessments of the capacities and capabilities of the Regional Economic Communities and other sub-regional organisations. As a result, care will be taken in the implementation of the programme to clarify mandates, build sub-regional capacity, and progressively build the involvement of sub-regional organisations within ClimDev-Africa's operations.

The operation design of the programme consisting of its two key elements, the ACPC and the CDSF, are based upon similar recent activities that have demonstrated initial success. These initiatives are the UNECA-based African Trade Policy Centre (ATPC) and the AfDB-based Congo Basin Forest Fund (CBFF). Governance of ClimDev-Africa and operation of the ACPC and CDSF substantially draw upon lessons learned from the recent design and implementation CBFF.

# 8

## 8. Programme Financing

Financing will be provided through a blend of programmatic funding and pooled Special Fund modalities. Total expenditure, as shown in the estimated budget below, is expected to be about US\$ 147 million over 4 years in the first instance. It is important to note that since the Special Fund is meant to be demand-led, this figure is likely to be revised.

