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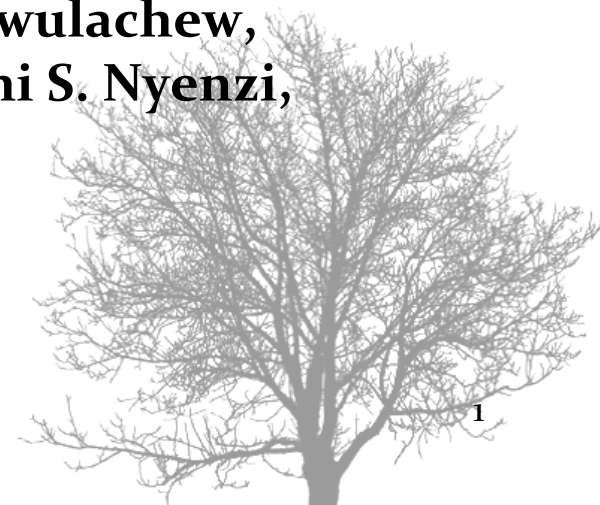
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ClimDev-Africa

# Climate Science, Information, and Services in Africa: status, gaps and policy implications

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# Outline

- **Introduction**
- **Climate Information and Services in Africa**
- **Climate Science in Africa**
- **Use of Climate Science and Information in Development Practices**
- **Role of ACPC** (in improving climate science and information and its applications in development practices.)
- **Recommendations**



# Introduction

**Climate information and services are critical inputs for effective climate risk management:**

➔ Science-informed policy, planning, and practice will ensure that development is more resilient and less vulnerable to negative impacts of climate

**The use of climate information and science in Africa has been very limited:**

➔ Efforts should be made to improve the provision and use of climate information

**ACPC has been making some efforts:**

➔ Consultation workshop → White papers → This presentation



# Climate Information and Services

## Current Status

- NMHS and RCC provide ranges of data, information and services;
- Big gap between what is needed and what is provided by NMHSs & RCC ;

## Major Challenges

- Weak investment in NMHS: Inadequate station networks, man power, communication & computational capacities;
- Restricted access to climate data.

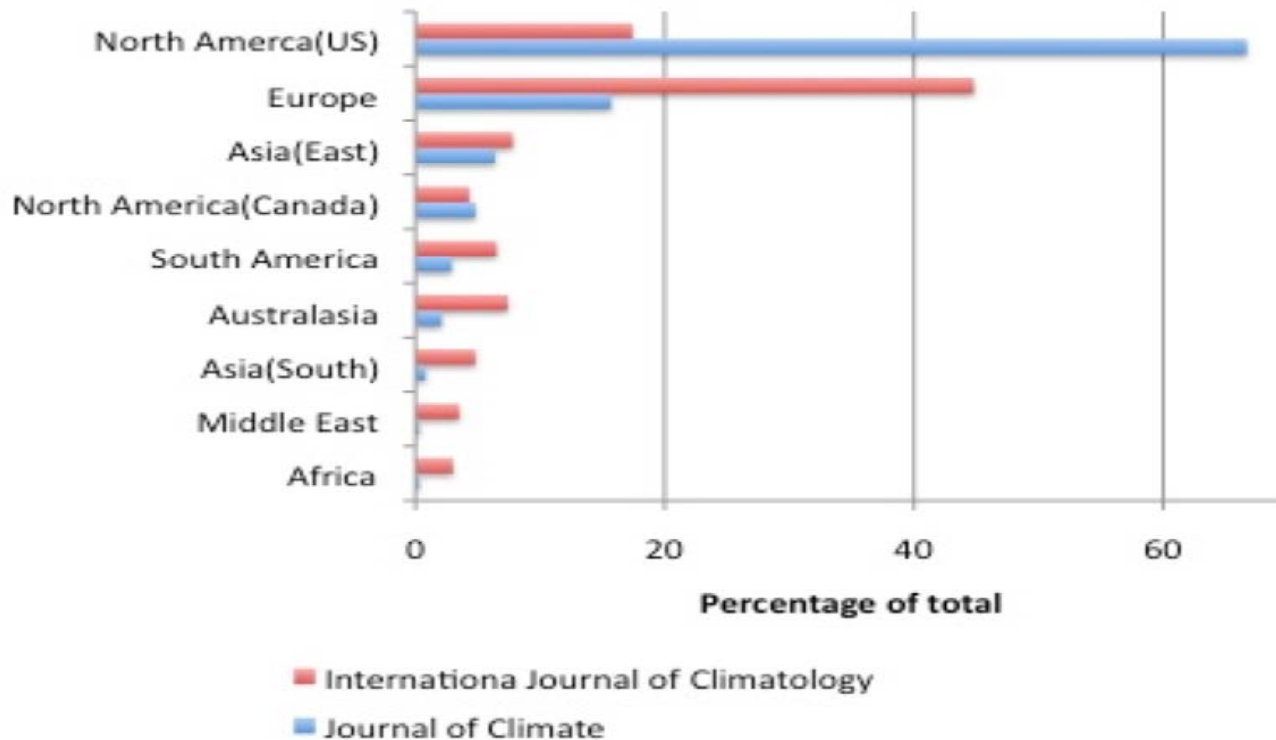
## Way Forward

- Strengthen national and regional climate institutions;
- Improving access to climate data: climate data a public good ;
- Better climate service for decision making by responding to user needs;

# Climate Science in Africa

## Current Status

Scientific research is very weak at all levels (NMHS, RCC, Universities).



Data obtained from Washington et al. 2006

scientific discourse on climate variability and change

and research

ties...  
publications in Africa;  
in international

# Use of Climate Science and Information in Development Practices

## Current Status

Development planning and practice in Africa rarely takes climate issues into account

## Major Challenges

- Lack of strategy for mainstreaming climate into development activities;
- Lack capacity by development practitioners;
- Less priority is given to climate issues relative to other pressing problems;
- Lack of relevant and reliable climate and socio-economic data.

## Way Forward

- Build the capacity of decision makers and experts at all levels
- Develop and implement national strategies for mainstreaming
- Support translators who understand the challenges on both sides;
- Produce and disseminate comprehensive risk management guidelines

# Role of ACPC

## Facilitate the science-policy and science-practice interfaces by:

- Defining requirements for decision-relevant climate information;
- Building the capacity of the user community to understand, demand and use climate information;
- Raising awareness of development practitioners on the need for, and value of integrating climate issues into decision-making processes;
- Assisting governments and regional economic communities in the formulation of national climate policies and strategies and their implementations.

## But first ACPC itself needs capacity building:

➔ ACPC's current or proposed capacity may not be enough to deliver what is expected of it.

# The major recommendations

- Invest in improving the capacities of NMHSs and other climate institutions;
- Make climate data a public good: increasing access increases value;
- Establish a regional center of excellence for climate science and applications;
- Support effective participation of African scientists in the process of generating new scenarios of climate change;
- Promote and support mainstreaming of climate issues into development policy, planning and practice;
- Build the capacity of decision makers and sectoral specialists in the use of climate information for decision-making at all levels;
- Produce and disseminate comprehensive risk management guidelines, best practices, and proofs of concepts focused on multiple climate-related risks.



Thank you

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