



ClimDev-Africa

CLIMATE OBSERVATIONS AND AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT

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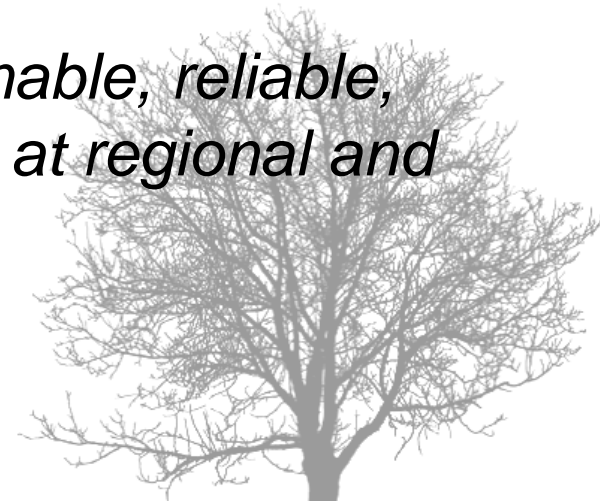
The Importance of Climate Observations

- **High quality observations necessary for**
 - Water resources management, agriculture and food security, preparedness for natural disasters, health, energy production, urban planning, coastal zone management, tourism
- **ECVs necessary (but not sufficient) to**
 - Reduce losses from extreme events, maximize outputs from agric, reduce incidence from disease, enhance design/location of infrastructure, etc.



The Mission of GCOS

- ⇒ To ensure the availability and quality of the atmospheric, oceanic and terrestrial and related earth observations needed for monitoring, understanding, predicting and protecting the global climate system
- ⇒ ...and for assisting communities and nations to live successfully with natural climate variability and human-induced climate change
- ⇒ *Requires long-term, high-quality, sustainable, reliable, observations at global (and increasingly at regional and national levels)*



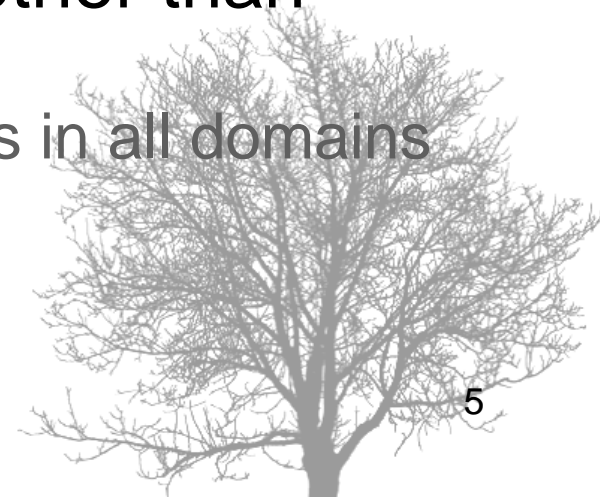
National Adaptation Programmes of Action

- 45 NAPAs submitted, 31 from Africa
- 13 of 31 mention gaps and deficiencies in observing systems
- Why not more?
 - Lack of awareness of role good data play?
 - Lack of communication bet NMHSs, planners?
- National Adaptation Plans provide another opportunity to consider climate observations



Climate for Development in Africa Programme and GCOS

- Conceived at April 2006 meeting organized jointly by GCOS and UNECA
- Responds to the challenge that climate change poses to the achievement of Africa's development objectives
- Entering implementation phase; ACPC in place
- Implementation for “result areas” other than policy should get underway soon
 - Improving climate observing networks in all domains
 - Developing climate services
 - Analysis for decision support



ClimDev Africa—An Opportunity That Must be Seized

- Is supported at the highest levels
- Will support adaptation to climate change and achievement of the MDGs
- An important part of the foundation for the successful implementation of the Global Framework for Climate Services



The Value of National and Regional Coordination

- Can act as a national advocate for sustained national observation networks
- Can coordinate across all ministries that deal with climate observations
- Can promote adherence to GCOS Climate Monitoring Principles and best practices
- Can help agencies understand why improving observations is important to achieving their own goals
- Can help identify sources of funding



Policy Recommendations

- Give high priority to improving climate observing networks through ClimDev Africa. Observations underpin development of effective climate services for adapting to climate change
- Countries should include observing system needs when preparing national adaptation plans
- Countries should designate GCOS national coordinators and national committees



Implementation Steps

- ClimDev Africa Programme should hire an experienced Implementation Programme Manager
- One or more pilot projects should be launched under ClimDev Africa as soon as possible
- Technical support projects should be established in African subregions to provide technical assistance when needed



Thank you

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