

**Climate Change Capacity Development
Programme in Africa**

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1. Background and Justification

The Climate for Development in Africa (ClimDev-Africa) Programme is an initiative of the African Union Commission (AUC), the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA, or ECA) and the African Development Bank (AfDB), mandated at the highest level by African leaders. The Programme has been established to create a solid foundation for Africa's response to climate change. Beyond the AUC-UNECA-AfDB partnership, the Programme works closely with other African and non-African institutions and partners specialised in climate and development. The ClimDev-Africa vision is to position Africa at the frontier of knowledge on climate change. This will allow vulnerable communities, together with governments and the private sector, to translate climate-related knowledge into effective policies, practice and planning processes for a climate resilient and sustainable development future.

The African Climate Policy Centre (ACPC) was established at the UNECA Headquarters in Addis Ababa in 2010. The ClimDev-Africa mandate, through the ACPC, seeks to conduct qualitative policy research that will enable Africa to define alternative choices outside the mainstream narrative. ACPC, through a strong scientific foundation, will provide policy makers with tools that will enable them to explore a range of options and make deliberate and optimal decisions.

The ACPC analytical and capacity building programme focuses on three result areas including:

- idely available climate information, packaging and dissemination;
- uality analysis for decision support and management practice; and
- nformed decision-making, awareness and advocacy.

Africa is predicted to be an area of the world where the impact of climate change will be second only to the polar zones (IPCC, 2007). Africa's capacity and knowledge base with regards to research, analysis and the formulation of policy to address climate change is very limited. This restricts the use of climate information for African decision-makers and communities most vulnerable to the current and future impacts of a changing climate. Africa has a stake in improving climate research outputs. There is need to ensure that African climate research is driven by critical adaptation needs and can inform decision-makers at regional, national and local levels in Africa.

In these contexts, ACPC initiates three major areas of engagement that enhance African capacities targeting the Policy, Research, Academia and Journalist target groups through fellowship programmes, capacity development and research support. These are envisioned through various programme areas and major activities elaborated below.

2. Objectives

The main objective of this particular ACPC capacity building work programme is to enhance the capacity development of African Institutions and individuals in relation to climate change policy analysis.

The specific objectives are to:

- Build solid climate change knowledge based on facts and scientific evidence;
- Promote climate change education, research and innovation;
- Build the capacity of key stakeholders to become active participants in the response to climate change through training;

- Build the capacity of young Africans with fellowship programmes by engaging university students and academics;
- Enhance climate change research capacity in African universities and research institutions by offering research grants, supporting programme development and mainstreaming climate change related university curricula;
- Build capacity and increase the awareness of African policy makers such as government officials, parliamentarians, negotiators, and regional economic commissions through direct short term training, seminars and roundtables;
- Provide tailor-made climate change training programmes for journalists and media professionals;
- Develop innovative programmes and initiatives such as national and regional networks, communities of practice and an African panel on climate change; support national panels so that knowledge generation in Africa is enhanced, and relevant platforms are developed and owned by Africans.

3. Expected achievements

3.1

The following results are expected:

- Improved capacity at national and regional level in research, analysis, formulation of policy to monitor and evaluate the impact of climate change on African development;
- Improved research capacity of selected African universities to address climate change;
- Increased awareness of policy-makers, legislators and other selected stakeholders on climate change risks and their impact on socio-economic development;

- Increased availability and more efficient utilisation of climate information and knowledge resources in support of Africa's development;
- Strengthened collaboration and networking for more efficient climate change information, knowledge and services sharing, and programme implementation.

3.2 Indicators of achievement include:

- number of students receive thesis grants to undertake research pertinent to climate change (at least 20 students supported). ACPC recruits 10 fellows at postgraduate and post-doctoral levels. At least five teaching fellows and two senior fellows are working with ACPC;
- at least five universities in Africa are networked; five new climate science research frontiers are granted seed money; five partnership climate research projects are supported; and an Africa-wide panel on climate change is established.
- capacity building of African policy-makers and parliamentarians through at least one workshop or seminar is conducted. A similar capacity building seminar for parliamentarians and policy makers in at least two member states will be conducted. Capacity building training for African journalists and a climate community of practice group or civil society is conducted. Tailor-made capacity building seminar/workshop is conducted for regional economic communities, River Basin Organisations (RBOs) and National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs);
- number of national or regional communities of practice, networks or panels dealing with climate change are promoted.

4.

4.1. ***Capacity Development Fellowships***

4.1.1

Background

To address adaptation in Africa, a critical mass of climate change analysts is required in African institutions. Already, there is a growing body of African graduates coming out of universities within and outside Africa with high qualifications that have the capacity to address climate change and development issues, but may lack opportunities to engage in these issues.

Through its fellowship programme, ACPC is establishing a platform to expose young African climate change scientists and academics to regional and global trends in climate research and response, thereby contributing to building a critical mass of capacity in climate research, while at the same time ensuring progress towards climate resilient development.

4.1.3

Objectives

Specific objectives of the current Pan-African programme are to:

- Provide climate research opportunities for young African postgraduates for two years,
- Give opportunity to fellows to strengthen their skills, gain access to state of the art technology and methods, and deliver world class research on Africa;
- Provide training for young scientists and policy experts to develop hands-on skills in key technical areas in climate change and development;
- Contribute to knowledge generation on key issues of climate change adaptation across Africa;
- Strengthen the presence of ACPC in sub-regions and amongst other institutions and support countries;

- Contribute to the attainment of a critical mass of high calibre African experts on the various aspects of climate change and development, in particular towards achieving climate resilient, low-carbon development;

4.1.4 Activities

ACPC Fellows will engage in research and fieldwork in their areas of expertise, guided by ACPC's climate change sectoral experts. The current programme will embed fellows in research institutions across Africa to broaden their experience in cutting edge contemporary climate change response areas.

4.1.2 Category and scope

At ACPC five types of fellowships are identified and some of these have already been practised:

- Student fellowships
- Postgraduate fellowships
- Post-doctoral research fellowships
- Teaching fellowships
- Senior fellowships

a.

Student Fellowships

These are fellowships for students pursuing Masters or Ph.D. degrees. The fellowships are usually provided for thesis research support. The duration of these fellowships is up to six months for Masters degree student fellows and up to three years for Ph.D. students.

b.

Postgraduate Fellows

These are fellowships for young individuals who have completed their Masters degree, or registered for a Ph.D., and are seeking fellowships to advance their

experience and career. The fellowships are usually for six months, extendable to one year and in some cases up to two years.

c.

Post-Doctoral Research Fellowships

These are fellowships for young individuals who have completed their Ph.D. degree and want to advance their research, experience and career. The fellowships are usually for one year and extendable up to two years.

d.

Teaching Fellowships

These are fellowships for academic and research staff working in African institutions who will undertake their major research work at their home institutions but will visit the ECA-ACPC for limited periods of time. The visit and limited stay at ECA-ACPC is to enable fellows to understand the ACPC programme of work and develop joint proposals, methodologies and plans of joint projects to be undertaken by their parent institutions and ACPC.

e.

Senior Fellowships

These are fellowships for senior and highly experienced professionals in research and policy formulation working in places such as universities, research institutions, government, non-governmental and international organisations. Senior fellows provide substantive inputs to the ACPC work programme and join ACPC for limited periods of time. This could be during the individual sabbatical leave period, engaged as a joint appointment, or seconded from the parent institution of the professional. Senior fellows must have rich experience and an advanced degree, and will have reached senior levels such as professor, associate professor, principal scientist, and other equivalent levels.

ACPC has already implemented type b and c fellowships, i.e. postgraduate and postdoctoral fellowship programmes. Since the establishment of ACPC at the end of 2010, nine fellows have benefited in the areas of climate science, climate change and hydrology, climate change and energy, climate change and water, climate change and economics, and climate change and governance/institutions. Five new fellows are working in the area of climate change and agriculture.

A generic job description for fellowships is provided in Annex 1.

4.2. African Climate Research Support

a) Building an African climate science and research base through the African Network of Universities

Academic communities and research institutions in Africa are the last untapped pool of expertise in a world made increasingly complex by the challenges of climate change and variability. While the current status of research work on climate change in African universities is weak at all levels, adaptation research and the production of evidence are dominated by the industrialised north¹.

Innovative solutions to achieve sustainable socio-economic development, reduce vulnerability to climate change and overcome these complex situations will require the effective participation of African academic and research communities. ACPC believes that developing a solid African climate science and research base will depend on building the capacity of higher education community and research institutions as the intellectual backbone for climate research on the continent. This is now paramount.

Thus the idea of building an African climate science and research base through an African network of universities is aimed at establishing climate change relevant teaching and research capacities at African universities and research institutions.

¹ ACPC 2011, "Climate Science, Information, Services in Africa: Status, Gaps and Policy implication", UNECA.

The approach is to identify key national and regional universities that will conduct national and regional programmes relevant to climate change. A collaborative programme will be implemented together with such establishments as the Pan-African University, the Association of African Universities, and the National Academy of Sciences. It will also tap into the teaching and senior fellowship programme described in Section 1. The programme will also establish partnership with development partner communities — such as the Soros Foundation — that are working in Africa.

Promoting a Collaborative Research Network: the Academic Climate Research Network

The Academic Climate Research Network (ACRN) is a multi-disciplinary research group comprising experts from a variety of universities, to serve as a hub for interdisciplinary research on climate change and its ecological, social, economic, and political impacts.

The ACRN mission is to promote collaboration by encouraging universities to organise themselves into research hubs and spokes, and to pursue opportunities to undertake development-driven climate research more vigorously.

The ACRN will encourage participating institutions to adopt a climate research system driven by performance outcomes, teaming up with other institutions in areas of common interest.

Other Objectives are to:

- Establish and strengthen climate change relevant teaching and research capacities;
- Mobilise adequate research funding to support institutional reform, achieve climate change research excellence, and increase collaboration;
- Promote climate change research training;

- Build climate change research capacity through a critical mass of universities on the continent, drawing on research collaboration between less research-intensive universities and larger universities;
- Address wider national climate change research and development objectives.

Activities

- Launch a call for an ACRN proposal focusing on selected core universities and research institutions;
- Initiate and adopt a collaborative framework between ACPC and ACRN;
- Implement an ACRN collaborative framework that improves the links between funding, national, sub-regional climate change priorities, and the diverse research missions of participant universities.

Core Universities

In line with the above, five universities with regional stature will each receive funding of US\$200,000 to establish ACRN in their respective regions. The five regional Institutions will work with ACPC to develop priority research and capacity building work in their respective regions. The institutions tentatively identified are:

1. Southern Africa – University of Cape Town
2. West Africa – University of Cheikh Anta Diop, Dakar (or CILSS, the Comité permanent inter-états pour la lutte contre la sécheresse au Sahel)
3. East Africa – Addis Ababa University, Horn of Africa Regional Environment and Network Centre
4. Central Africa – University of Yaoundé
5. North Africa – University of Rabat.

b) Support to African Climate Research Frontiers

The Africa Climate Change Conference 2013 (ACC2013) is under preparation, initiated by ACPC, the World Climate Research Programme of the World

Meteorological Organisation and other partners. Numerous climate science research frontiers that are Africa relevant have been identified, and continue to be developed. A synthesis of research presented at ACC2013, from October 15-18, will be presented during CCDA-III, a week later. Frontier research areas require funding and ACPC through ClimDev-Africa can provide research resources for some of the selected research areas that have relevance to ClimDev-Africa and ACPC work programmes. ACPC has already allocated US\$ 15,000 to support ACC2013, and a further US\$ 85,000 will facilitate preparatory work for programme development on research frontiers.

c) Africa focused partnership climate research

This work area develops new research in keeping with the priority analytical work and research areas of ACPC, such as in the areas of climate science, climate information systems, disaster risk reduction and early warning systems, water, agriculture, energy and forestry, or thematic areas such as adaptation, mitigation, finance. The research areas build on ACPC's experience working with The Energy and Resources Institute (ERI), GWP, the Mary Robinson Foundation (MRF), the Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI) and other advanced research institutions. The following are envisaged as priority areas:

- MRF on climate change and gender, MoU is already prepared;
- The International Research Institute for Climate and Society of Colombia University, Letter of Agreement (LoA) is already prepared, and work should commence in August;
- International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED) in relation to climate policy. IIED is already engaged in developing a theory of change.
- A World Bank project on infrastructure and climate change is already jointly running. A further area that has already started is the Cooperation in International Waters of Africa programme. This includes climate change and capacity development. The establishment of a panel of experts and a joint side event at Stockholm Water Week will also be pursued.

- SEI: exchange of ideas have been made, MoU has been developed and needs to be finalised;
- Institute for Sustainable Development (ISD) etc.

d) African Panel of Climate Change

This builds on experiences of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and National PCCs. An Africa-level regional and integration dimension will be developed in close consultation with the IPCC chair, co-chairs and lead authors with a special work focus on Africa. A budget of USD100,000 will facilitate consultation and development of work programmes.

4.3. *Capacity Development for Policy Makers and Opinion Leaders*

a) African Group of Negotiators

The ACPC programme of support and capacity development for the African Group of Negotiators (AGN) involves the following main areas:

- **Coordination of support.** Currently, there is a proliferation of support to the AGN and at times some confusion. The AUC, UNECA and AfDB, as well as UNEP and other organisations providing support to the AGN, need to coordinate their support in order to complement one another, synergise efforts, avoid duplication and systematise support areas. Thus, ACPC is establishing a consultative mechanism to guide the soliciting of support and resources.
- **Research based technical backstopping.** ACPC has already provided research-based backstopping and continuous technical backstopping during the COPs, through staff and consultants. It has prepared more than eight papers for the AGN in key areas such as climate finance, Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) and agriculture. It also provided continuous backstopping inputs during the last three CoPs and the Bonn based June inter-sessions. These inputs will continue. Recently, ACPC has identified critical research areas that have relevance to the AGN. Details are provided in Annex 2. ACPC and its partners

will tackle these areas of research to help provide the necessary knowledge inputs for AGN negotiations and establish common African positions.

A total budget of USD100, 000 will facilitate work in this area.

b) Capacity Building of National Policy Makers

This programme constitutes demand led capacity building. For example, ACPC has started supporting the Ethiopian Ministry of Water and Energy in the area of policy and strategy development and energy policy. This is envisaged through outsourcing the training to well-equipped institutions such as the International Energy Agency, the IAE, the Energy and Resources Institute, or similar institutions. A budget of USD70,000 is already earmarked and may be replenished based on the lessons from this initial piloting programme.

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c) Parliamentarians

Parliaments represent the best opportunities for all forces in a society to be represented at the national level in policy-making. Parliamentarians are the 'trustees' of the public mandate. It is assumed that they will uphold national and public interest over competing narrow and parochial interests.

Parliamentarians as publicly elected officials and lawmakers of countries are responsible for providing leadership and guidance toward achieving climate resilient economies on the continent. However, not many parliamentarians are fully aware of the implications of climate change for African economies and are not able to actively participate in national debates that can translate the needs of citizens into policies.

Hence, there is a growing need to enhance the awareness of parliamentarians regarding the adverse effects of climate change in everyday life. Members of Parliament must recognise the implications of emerging climate change threats in

areas that impinge directly upon a country's development, including legal, financial, social and economic aspects.

ClimDev-Africa, through ACPC, is launching the current capacity development programme to raise awareness and build capacity among legislators on key aspects of climate change and socio-economic development in Africa. Particular emphasis will be put on parliaments, parliamentarians and their pivotal role in mobilising resources, passing laws, debating issues of national concern and holding governments to account on their commitments.

Specific objectives of this sub-programme include:

- (a) To support continual awareness raising and capacity building on climate change and socioeconomic development for members and staff of parliaments;
- (b) To promote the development, dissemination and exchange of climate change information and knowledge, policymaking, legislation and financing among members of parliament;
- (c) To keep members of parliaments informed about solutions to cope with the adverse effects of climate change and the role of legislators in terms of advocating for sufficient budgets and adequate legislation to deal with climate change;
- (d) To promote harmonisation of national legislation and relevant measures for coping with climate change effects;
- (e) To work with the media and other effective knowledge brokers that can play a role in communicating climate change effects, best practice and legal requirements to parliamentarians and the public at large;
- (f) To promote the creation of a climate change and environment committee, in all African parliaments.

Activities

This programme aims to create awareness and build the capacity of parliamentarians on climate change. It will focus on regional and Pan-African Parliamentarians and will include:

- Five regional workshops on climate change, socio-economic development and the role of parliaments;
- Briefing papers on coping with climate change effects through better legislation and harmonisation;
- Support to national parliaments on a demand basis;
- Parliaments will be encouraged to promote special committees or strengthen the functioning of committees dealing with climate change;

Provisional budget: $(60,000 \times 5) + (10,000 \times 30) = \text{USD } 330,000$.

d) Regional Entities

This programme component is to provide demand driven support to regional institutions such as regional economic communities, river basin organisations, ministerial councils, and similar establishments.

As member states adopt and implement national adaptation, mitigation and early warning climate change frameworks, it becomes necessary to build on economies of scale and support regional integration, while harmonising policies, plans, practices, legislative and regulatory frameworks.

The current capacity building framework for regional entities aims at promoting harmonisation of national strategies and plans at the sub-regional level for consistency with regional economic integration goals. It will also facilitate best practice sharing, focusing on questions of comparative advantage, cross-border interaction, market enlargement and enhancement of the potential for cost sharing through joint projects at sub-regional and regional levels.

Support will continue to the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment and the African Ministers Council on Water. Similar support will be extended to the African Ministerial Conference on Meteorology, etc.

Specific objectives of this sub-programme include to:

- Support the harmonisation of national climate change programmes and initiatives at sub-regional level;
- Support the harmonisation of climate change related legislation and regulatory frameworks;
- Promote regional climate change coping plans such as climate change agriculture and trade;

Activities

- Organise regional awareness raising initiatives and a training workshop on climate change, development and regional integration;
- Build a critical mass of policy research and analysis in line with climate change, adaptation mitigation and regional integration;
- Assist regional entities in a climate change related policy framework or programme.

ACPC is planning to work with regional climate centres through the ClimDev-Africa Special Fund to support research and capacity development endeavours.

Provisional budget: The ACPC component to support such regional entities is budgeted at USD200, 000.

e) Capacity Development for media professionals and researchers

In addition to being an essential means for information dissemination, the media play a critical role in spreading awareness and building capacity on the challenges of climate change effects and importance and benefits of climate resilient pathways.

Newspapers, radio, television, the Internet, web portals, social media and other multi-media materials provide easy, accessible and affordable means of carrying information to the public, including those most vulnerable to climate change effects. The mass media can access many of the existing sources of information and provide broad communication channels to the poor and to remote areas.

Based on its mandate to build awareness, promote climate resilient economies in Africa and strengthen the capacity of media institutions, researchers and professionals, the African Climate Policy Centre (ACPC) of ClimDev-Africa is launching the Pan-African Media Capacity Development programme.

The main objectives of this programme are to:

- Build the institutional and human capacities of media institutions, researchers and professionals;
- Provide ways and means of disseminating information, knowledge and services on climate change and responses to the public at large;
- Raise awareness about climate change, adaptation, mitigation, early warning and socio-economic development in the community;
- Open channels of communication to all citizens;
- Facilitate the identification, adaptation, and adoption of innovative approaches for the effective delivery and local appropriation of climate change messages.

Expected achievements

The following results are expected:

- A critical mass of media professionals and researchers specialised in analytical climate information coverage is built;

- Increased awareness and knowledge of climate change effects and responses of policy-makers and the public;
- Improved mainstreaming of climate change issues into a development agenda at national and sub-regional levels.

Activities

Various capacity building activities will be implemented at national and sub-regional levels including:

- Regional media training workshop on 'Climate change and socio-economic development: the role of media professionals and researchers';
- Support to a media campaign on climate change effects, adaptation, mitigation planning and practices and socio-economic development;
- Production of radio and video series to be broadcast in all member states;
- Promotion of a climate change media network at national and sub-regional levels;
- Support to the existing Pan-African Media Forum;
- Development of courses, training manuals and online material in collaboration with the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP) on Media and Climate Change.

4.4. *Establishing A Global Partnership for Climate Change in Africa*

The scale of climate change effects and responses required towards resilient development in Africa is such that it will require important investment, innovative approaches and national, regional and global partnership. A regional or International organisation, an Institution, a project or programme alone cannot respond meaningfully to these challenges.

Therefore it is vital to develop a Global Partnership for Climate Change in Africa (GPCCA) framework bringing together institutions and partners investing or specialised in climate change and development on the continent.

The GPCCA will be an informal group of donors, executing agencies, specialised climate institutions and research centres, with representation from other stakeholders such as regional parliaments, university networks, the private sector, media and renowned civil society organisations.

Objectives

The overall objective of the GPCCA is to promote coherence, synergy and collaboration around investment and planning for a climate change programme in Africa.

The GPCCA's specific objectives are to:

- Promote dialogue, information and knowledge sharing between members;
- Map and share roles, responsibilities and on-going interventions on the continent;
- Enhance climate change aid, expertise effectiveness harmonisation and coordination;
- Promote collaboration, joint programmes and investment in climate change in Africa;
- Promote a mutual accountability framework;
- Collaborate for the optimisation of investment in climate change initiatives in Africa;
- Support regional platforms that promote lesson learning across countries and policy areas;
- Share lessons across international policy processes, and pursue coherent approaches to the effective delivery of various interventions.

Activities

- Climate change partners mapping;
- Membership driving;
- Launch of GPCCA with election of steering committee and adoption of various constitutional documents;
- Organise GPCCA forum every year;
- Organise joint conference and meetings on climate change and development;
- Organise joint research studies;
- Publish two GPCCA bulletins a year.

Provisional Budget: A sum of USD100,000 a year may be allocated for GPCCA activities for three years.

5. Building on ECA capacity development centre, IDEP

The African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP) is a Pan-African institution created in 1962 by the General Assembly of the United Nations.

The Institute functions as a subsidiary body of UNECA. It is headquartered in Dakar, Senegal, and its membership comprises all the 54 African Member States. IDEP is the pioneer Pan-African institution established on the African continent for the building, upgrading and/or updating of the technical aptitudes and proficiencies of mid-career and senior government officials in economic management and development planning.

The Institute was established by UNECA as a sub-programme of the Commission and enjoys a functional position and role in the overall organisational structure and approach of UNECA. The statutes of the Institute provide for the Executive Secretary of UNECA, who is also a UN Under Secretary-General, to serve as the Chair of its Governing Council.

ACPC will explore an annual framework for collaboration with IDEP in line with implementation of the present Pan-African capacity development programme.

6. Monitoring and Evaluation

The allocation of funds to each sub-programme shall be determined by performance indicators, the clear accomplishment of targets, and the adoption of a performance measurement framework at the outset. A continuous and systematic collection of data on identified indicators to track progress towards achieving results will therefore be implemented.

An annual evaluation of the overall programme to determine the relevance and fulfilment of objectives, development efficiency, effectiveness, impact, and sustainability will be implemented.

