



CLIMATE CHANGE AND DEVELOPMENT

CONSULTATION ON KEY RESEARCHABLE ISSUES

ANNEX III: WEST AFRICAN ACTIVITIES REVIEW ENDA

Saleemul Huq and Hannah Reid
Climate Change Group
International Institute for Environment and Development
3 Endsleigh Street, London WC1H 0DD, UK
Tel: (+44 20) 7388 2117
Fax: (+44 20) 7388 2826
Email: saleemul.huq@iied.org hannah.reid@iied.org

Projects and activities relating to climate change.

A/ Projects and activities conducted by Enda.

iACCT- Information for Africa Climate Technology Transfer

A web site (<http://www.enda.sn/energie/climat/>) was launched and carries links to several relevant sites with information and data on climate change. The overall site serves as a portal for all African players, particularly negotiators from civil society. Enda is the focal point of the project being implemented in tandem with the Senegalese Environment Board. The site also provides information on the stakes. The basic aim of the project is to gather and disseminate all salient information connected to climate change and related issues. It should help bolster the institutional capacities of the focal points while at the same time furnishing African policy-makers with vital tools. The project's other aspect is the setting up of an African clean production network for sharing data online in relation to pollution prevention and technology transfers for industry.

ENDA T.M. works in partnership with EPA Ghana, Malifolkcenter, ACTS, DEEC Senegal.

DESERTIFICATION: Supporting the Convention Secretariat

Assistance to the UNCCD Secretariat in the elaboration of a synthesis and preliminary analysis of information contained in national reports from Affected African Countries parties.

The objective is to review, summarise and analyse national reports submitted by African country parties. The results will help draw lessons learnt and facilitate the review process of the implementation status of the convention.

Kyoto: Think Global Act Local

The purpose of this project is to help rural communities in developing countries' access funds under UNFCCC and Kyoto mechanisms to support local management of natural forests, and other activities such as agroforestry. For the international community the aim may be carbon reduction, but from the point of view for local communities the aim may be for environmental sustainability and for social and economic development, which provides a so called "win-win" situation. The assistance offered by research will include assistance in the management of such forest projects in a way that combines development values with the requirements laid down in these climate agreements. These development values might, depending on the local conditions and sensitivities, include provision of sustainable supplies of firewood without reducing biodiversity or access to other forest products (medicinal herbs, fodder, etc.); increased economic opportunities; equitable distribution of these opportunities between members of the immediate community (me/women, rich/poor); consideration of equity between upstream and downstream communities, and strengthening of civil society through empowerment over forest resources. The research will develop ways of gathering and presenting data on these and on climate variable by the local communities themselves, yet which are good enough to back-up claims on international climate funds.

The partners involved in this project are Technology and Development Group (University of Twente), ITC, Enschede, Department of Geography (University of Dar es Salaam Tanzania), ICIMOD, Nep

Capacity Development for the Clean Development Mechanism (CD4CDM)

The Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) proposed under article 12 of the Kyoto Protocol is an important potential instrument to promote foreign investment in GHG emission reduction options while simultaneously addressing the issue of sustainable development.

With the international framework for the CDM presently under development, many complex legal, financial and technical issues still require further discussion. Under these circumstances, most developing countries with limited institutional capacity will face a significant challenge in taking a proactive approach to participate as equal and reliable partners in CDM when it becomes operational. Reflecting the needs of developing countries, UNEP is implementing a 4-year project on Capacity Development for the CDM with funding from the government of the Netherlands.

Objectives are:

- to generate in participating developing countries a broad understanding of the opportunities offered by the CDM,
- to develop the necessary institutional and human capabilities to formulate and implement projects under the CDM.
- to help ensure the early success and efficacy of the CDM through creating national capacity to implement the CDM in 12 developing countries.

Climate Change Capacity Development (C3D)

Brief description:

Ever since the United Nations Environment and Development conference, known more commonly as the Earth Summit, in Rio (Brazil) in 1992, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change has continually emphasised the issue of technology transfer (CP4) and support for capacity-building initiatives in countries not signed up to Appendix 1 and heavily-indebted countries (CP5), the need to reinforce institutional, human and financial capacities of developing nations.

The convention recognises that technology transfers and financial support are crucial for sustainable development and helping non-Appendix 1 countries (those that are especially vulnerable in economic, social and environmental terms) cope with climate change and adapt to its effects.

The Climate Change Capacity Development (C3D) project was designed with this in mind and, in particular, on the basis of the recommendations adopted at decision 2 at 7th session of the conference of parties in Marrakech (Morocco) in November 2001.

It aims to bolster the human and institutional capacities by offering extra support for representatives of developing countries, particularly the least advanced countries, to enable them to take full part in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

Objectives of the project:

Strengthen the participation of development countries in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change;

Appropriate application of the United Nations Framework Convention Climate Change and the Kyoto Protocol by developing countries;

Improved co-ordination and integration of national policies and sustainable development policies; Help increase the involvement of the European community and bilateral assistance in developing countries in terms of climate change.

The partners are:

Energy Research Center (ERC) Cape Town (South Africa)

Munasinghe Institute for Development (MIND) Colombo (Sri Lanka) Environment and Development in the Third World (ENDA -TM) Dakar-Senegal

UNITAR

Capacity strengthening in Least Developed Countries for Adaptation to Climate Change (CLACC)

Brief description

The process for the Least Developed Countries (LDCs), indeed for all countries, of adapting to the impacts of climate change will require long-term efforts to strengthen the adaptive capacity of each society. This will require concerted efforts over a long period (not just one-off projects) and investment in capacity strengthening in all sectors of society, including government as well as civil society. The NAPA process, started under the aegis of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), is thus merely the first step in a long process of helping different stakeholder groups in each country to understand the problem and their roles in building resilience to face any adverse impacts that may lie ahead.

It is therefore important that any efforts to strengthen the adaptive capacity of the LDCs are not confined only to the government or official agencies. The NAPA guidelines developed by the LDC Expert Group (LEG) place major emphasis on the need to involve all relevant stakeholders in the process of developing Napa's. Thus, in addition to government and official agencies, it is also necessary to target civil society to enable it to effectively play its part. This project aims to strengthen the elements of civil society related to adaptive capacity in order to support the official NAPA process in the LDCs over the coming years.

There are two aspects of the CLACC have two specific objectives. The first is to help produce information on Adaptation to Climate Change by linking the PRSP, the first national reports and other documents relating to multilateral agreements on the environment. The second objective is to facilitate the emergence of expertise in LDCs on adapting to climate change. This entails identifying institutions (and the individuals within them) with significant development potential and who, after suitable training by regional centres (including Enda) could pass on knowledge and, in the future, generate knowledge so that LDCs can participate fully in the adaptation issues that affect them.

Partners: IIED, RING, ENDA, BCAS, ZERO, CGAR,

B/ Some current research projects in West Africa

There are a host of research projects on the issue of climate change. Most tend to focus on two areas: (i) devising models for assessing climate, and (ii) carbon sequestration. These projects include:

- The Seasonal Rain and Flow Regimes Forecast Project in West Africa (PRESAO);
- The Flow Regimes from International Experimental and Network Data¹, which got underway in 1992;
- The Support Project for Building Climate Change Adaptation Capacities in CILSS-member countries;
- The Global Hydrological Cycle Observation System (HYCOS) ;
- The Multi-disciplinary Programme for Analysing African Monsoon (AMMA) ;
- The project for Assessing the Impacts and Adaptation to Climate Change (AIACC);
- Global Water Partnership;
- Harmonisation of Climate Prediction for Mitigation of Global Change Impact in Sudano-Saharan West Africa.

These projects and initiatives afford an opportunity to carry out long-term integrated studies and, at the same time, to support the development of West African expertise. It should be stressed that most countries have their own research bodies working on agro-climate and hydrological issues. In some cases these bodies are involved in executing projects in partnership with international institutions, and they also collaborate with the Global Environmental Fund and the instruments arising from the Convention on Climate Change.

In theory, these different projects in progress should lead to the emergence of a critical mass of capacities and strengthen initiatives for fighting poverty. However, the question has to be asked as to whether these results have actually been achieved – in this regard, some observations can be made on the basis of critical assessments of some of the initiatives.

Firstly, it can be said that the way that countries in the region have allocated credits to projects working on climate modelling, and the fact that these initiatives depend to a large extent on external backing, poses several problems. Notably, it means that national bodies are not in full control of the direction and topics of research, which in turn means that the projects tend to cater to the concerns of laboratories based in the North². The development of an indigenous capacity for taking charge of climatic concerns is all the more important when we consider that being dependent on funding from external sources means research activities may not be sustainable.

¹ This project deals with flow systems on the basis of data deriving from experiments and networks.

² The AMMA has taken a different approach by attempting to harness the involvement of African scientists in setting research objectives and using their methodologies and monitoring/assessment mechanisms.

Carbon sequestration projects looking at agricultural systems in Sahelian Africa are quite controversial because carbon sequestered from agriculture is not permanent.

Another limiting factor on the various projects conducted in the countries (and which is also evident in the national reports) arises from the fact that they do not define clearly enough the interface between climate change, biodiversity, the combat against desertification and the combat against poverty.

Broadly speaking, research conducted so far into climate change is compartmentalised and quite scattered in terms of the complexity and exhaustiveness of research tools. Most research programmes are still restricted to looking at scientific and technical aspects and therefore do not pay sufficient heed to questions relating to the economic and institutional aspects of climate change. The absence of linkages between these programmes and economic impact studies makes it impossible to accurately ascertain the costs and benefits of different adaptation options.

Some other projects connected to ‘climate change’ (to be completed with ENDA projects)

PROJECT	INSTITUTIONS
- Vulnerability Study of the Senegalese Coast	Direction de l'Environnement
- Linking Climate Adaptation (LCA)	Enda Energie, Environment and Development
- Climate Change Capacity Development C3D	Enda Energie, Environment and Development
-Capacity Building on the Clean Development Mechanism (Kyoto protocol)	CECODI /BENIN Ministry of the Environment /BENIN
-Climate Change Information Programme	Enda Energie, Environment and Development
- Forestry Exploitation Rationalisation Project – Promotion of Wood Substitution Fuels	Direction de l'Energie / PROGEDE
- CC National Implementation Strategy	DGE/BF
- CC National report	DEEC /DCE BF
- CC Reduction Options Economic Assessment Evaluation	DEEC /DCE BF
- CC Train programme	DEEC /CECODI BENIN
- NSCAP I	
- NSCAP II	CSE DGE /BF /ENDA
-Identification of CC Adaptation Technologies	
- NAPA	CECODI/BENIN
- Inventory Improvement Programme	Round table on Sustainable Modes of Consumption and Production

- Refinement of Adaptation Technologies	ISRA- Senegal
- Study of Carbon Sequestration Potential	ISRA- Senegal
-Impact of Climate Change on the Agricultural Sector	UCAD - ISRA- Senegal
-CC National Implementation Strategy -NAPA Implementation	-Direction de l'Environnement MEHU - ONG OFEDI 04 BP 1530 Cotonou BENIN - CECODI ONG 08 BP 7091 Cotonou
-National NGO projects -CC National Implementation Strategy - NAP Implementation	CNCOD – Niamey- Niger S/C EIP- NIGER, BP 11 867 - Niamey

Programme for combating climate change in Africa as part of NEPAD³ :

Projects in progress:

- Climate, water and agriculture: impacts and adaptation on agro-ecology systems in Africa (Regional Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Egypt, Ghana, Ethiopia, Kenya, Nigeria, Senegal, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe)
- National Adaptation Action Programme (NAP)
- Assessment of Impacts and Adaptation to Climate Change (EIACC)
- Capacity building of climate change observation systems
- Refinement of early warning systems so that remedial measures are taken at the right time
- Dialogue on water and climate in the Sahel region (see IUCN office in West Africa)
- Vulnerability and adaptation to climate change in the Sahel region: project funded by the Canadian government and executed by the CILSS.

Projects proposals:

- Integrated management of vulnerability to climate change and variability, and response strategies in Africa (studies of climate change on the basis of local actions and national dialogues; management of risks linked to climate, resource adaptation and carbon sequestration)
- Support research policies and education programmes on the climate change.

³ Cf. NEPAD, GEF, UNEP, AU, 2003. Environment Initiative Action Plan.

- Bolster the shared management of waterway basin and devise sub-regional water resource strategies: (a) incorporate climate change issues into the holistic management of the three hydrographic basin in the Maghreb region (Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia); (b) assess the impacts of, and adaptation to, climate change on water basin in the Gambia.
- Building capacities in relation to early warning systems (early warning, seasonal forecasts and tool development).
- The consequences of climate variability on the environment, malaria and poverty in the mountains of East Africa.
- The impact of global climate changes on sea and coastal eco-systems in sub-Saharan Africa (forecasts, capacity creation, fostering activities on the ground)
- Assessment of the vulnerability of sub-Saharan African coastal zones to the various effects of climate change (including the rising sea level): (measure historical sequences, identify vulnerable coastal zones, characterise vulnerability and identify adaptation measures).