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## CLIMATE CHANGE AND DEVELOPMENT

### CONSULTATION ON KEY RESEARCHABLE ISSUES

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#### **SECTION 6: WEST AFRICA REGION SECTION 6.3. DAKAR WORKSHOP REPORT ENDA**

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## **Workshop report: 22 - 23 April 2005 in Hotel Al Hafifa.**

### **1. Introduction**

In partnership with RING and LEAD International, IIED led a concerted discussion exercise on the links between climate change and development with a view to determining research priorities and the main thrusts of policies. This pilot process was funded by the DFID and conducted in three regions around the world<sup>1</sup>. The overall objective is to enhance the capacities of disadvantaged groups to adapt to the effects of climate change. The consultation process strives to: (i) identify the priority needs of developing countries in terms of research on climate change and its impact on poverty and sustainable development, (ii) identify the added value and inadequacies of the research programmes already executed or underway, and (iii) clearly outline research topics.

The methodology used in the consultation process combines several approaches that aim to simultaneously broaden the scope of discussions and carry out an in-depth assessment of research activities and needs. The overall approach was based on four series of activities:

- i. Analysis of documentation, identifying the main points of convergence in the concerns of the main research institutions investigating the ties between climate change and poverty;
- ii. Conduct interviews with a core of experts in climate change issues and how they affect various sectors (health, water, agriculture, transport, governance, economic growth, etc.);
- iii. Compilation of focus groups to gather the concerns and viewpoints of the main players in the three sectors most affected (i) water and agriculture, (ii) coastal and sea erosion and (iii) health;
- iv. National and regional workshops to validate and give feedback on the findings of the document summaries, focus groups and interviews. Thanks to the workshop discussions, it was possible to outline salient political directions and lay down the path future research should take.

### **2. Purpose of the workshop**

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<sup>1</sup> South Asia, East Africa and West Africa

As mentioned above, the purpose of the workshop was to validate and provide feedback on the work conducted via the focus groups, document analyses and interviews. It also afford an opportunity to address a number of other issues, namely:

- The state of research in Senegalese and West African universities and research centres,
- Obstacles encountered in the dissemination and valorisation of research findings,
- The question of what to place the research emphasis on in order to help the most deprived populations become less vulnerable to climate change in the long term

### **3. Methodology**

Discussions were shaped in such a way as to generate the conditions for an informed and sustained debate on the state of research and a critical reflection on the main initiatives in progress. Work was structured into two parts for the duration of the two day-workshop (see programme in appendix):

- The first day was dedicated to a national workshop featuring Senegalese participants representing public institutions, NGOs and training and research institutions;
- The second day saw a sub-regional workshop with the Senegalese participants and representatives from four other countries (Benin, Burkina Faso, Ivory Coast, Niger and Mali).

The first day's work programme saw:

- i. Presentation of the summary of documentation;
- ii. Presentation of the findings of focus groups and interview reports;
- iii. Discussion on research priorities and policy directions.

The second day's programme was centred on:

- i. Presentation of the main results of the first day's work;
- ii. Description of the situation in the four other represented countries from the sub-region;
- iii. Main results of the initiatives underway at sub-regional level;
- iv. Discussions on research priorities and policy directions.

In both cases, there was a plenary session followed by discussion in smaller groups working simultaneously. This method was chosen because it was most likely to encourage in-depth discussions on the issues to be dealt with, notably (i) priority research topics and (ii) policy directions. The groups looked at these issues with a view to forming proposals and recommendations. The results of the group work were presented at a closing, where recommendations were issued with regard to policy directions and future research.

It is important to stress that these working groups were run in accordance with the Carrousel technique, which features five main steps:

- 1- Two work groups are formed, each with its own terms of reference
- 2- The members of each group hold talks for 45 minutes (featuring general brainstorming, ideas on each topic in the terms of reference are discussed and noted on individual sheets, with the benefits and disadvantages of each being addressed as well as research priorities and possible added value)
- 3- Mixture of groups. The members of group 1 merge with the reporter and moderator of group 2 and vice versa so that each group gets to comment on and ponder the thoughts of the other group's contribution: direction -25 minutes;
- 4- The participants rejoin their original groups and feedback follows (from the moderator and reporter of group 1) on the contribution of group 2 to the work of group 1- Duration: 20 minutes.
- 5- Validation and presentation of the fruits of each group's discussions.

#### **4. Workshop results**

During the workshop, the participants expressed a number of observations and issued a host of proposals. The most pertinent ones are listed below.

##### **A/Observations.**

- Sector-specific activities and initiatives are underway in many sectors (such as agriculture, energy, water, etc.) but they are limited by the fact that they are dispersed and do not form part of a coherent overall policy on climate change issues
- Research bodies exist (in Senegal these are ISRA, Laboratoire Universitaire UCAD, and in the rest of West Africa this means the AGRIMET Centre, etc.) and there is also a degree of national expertise. However, these bodies and human potential have not been mobilised to address climate change. Worse, there are no ties or synergies between the various work in progress.
- In West Africa, sub-regional frameworks do exist (or are in the process of being set up), including CILSS and the AGRIMET centre. Regional integration mechanisms include ECOWAS and NEPAD; climate change has been identified as a critical issue that needs to be incorporated into existing or future sub-regional initiatives. (see West African activities and project document).
- In Senegal, the institutional research framework exists through the National Commission with two sub-commissions (on carbon and energy) ; this falls under the aegis of the environment ministry. Work in progress includes:

- a) Compilation of a state of play report on the impact of carbon on eco-systems (case study on carbon sequestration in Vélingara) with a view to establishing a reference situations for drawing up scenarios.
- b) Models exist and are being used in ISRA

However, these activities are not underpinned by any overall, co-ordinating policy. This is because:

- Research on climate change is not yet considered as a priority in policies
- Officials in the Ministry of Research are not yet sufficiently aware of the stakes of climate change.

There is a political willingness to take account of knowledge generated by research:

- on the issue of coastal erosion, research results are directly integrated into political directions
- on the issue of the environment, there is an obligation to pay heed to impact studies and studies on the use of clean technologies when managing greenhouse gases
- with regard to agriculture, research progress on enhanced seeds and fertiliser formulae are taken into account by agricultural policies.

Despite this, there is still only a relatively low amount of political willingness. Other impediments include:

- limitations in the institutional framework (the Ministry of Research has not bodies under its direct control, nor does it have adequate resources or decision-making power; bearing this in mind, how can it be expected to drive research?)
- research is not sufficiently disseminated and valorised by researchers themselves
- researchers have very little room for manoeuvre when it comes to implementing their findings
- In Senegal, research results are not systematically taken into account (an abundance of research is currently available in the form of theses or memoirs from the Institute of Earth Sciences and the Environment); even where results are known about (such as in the case of research on pollution, and the negative impact on riverside populations due to SOCOCIM), no concrete action has been taken by the public authorities because SOCOCIM (cement manufacturer) employs a lot of people in the country.

- Advances have been made in terms of valorising research results thanks to the strategy of funding and steering research on the basis of social demand (this new approach is based on genuine needs, which are identified in unison with the relevant beneficiary populations)

- the results of some research is valorised and implemented in sector-specific projects (coastal erosion, agriculture, the environment, etc.)

Nevertheless, many factors militate against political dialogue between decision-makers and researchers:

- the absence of any holistic, multi-disciplinary research policy among ministries and institutions

- the fact that researchers employ excessively technical jargon that impedes effective communication between them and decision-makers
- researchers concerns and those of the public authorities are not always compatible
- research is not necessarily geared towards fulfilling the country's most pressing concerns
- research is not conducted on a sustainable basis
- The country does not have a comprehensive understanding or awareness of research going on at international level

## **B/ Participants' proposals**

### **B.1. How to improve the research planning systems: increase the social usefulness of research, boost pre-emption capacities and undertake scientific monitoring**

- Establishment of decentralised planning mechanisms that harness the input of grassroots organisations (producers, NGOS, CBOs, etc.), researchers and representatives of traditional services to undertaken analyses, identify constraints and solutions and rank solutions, etc.
- Ensure that research activities dovetail better with the concerns of people on the ground (i.e. let social demand steer research)
- make it compulsory to comply with the findings of impact studies and to use clean technologies to manager greenhouse gases

### **B.2. Conditions to be created for fostering dialogue between researchers and policy-makers**

- Implement consultation framework for policy-makers and researchers and also for inter-governmental consultations
- Upgrade researchers' work conditions
- Set up mechanisms for spreading word of the findings of research into climate change, as with the ANCAR

### **B.3. Instruments to be set up to ensure the effectiveness of the measures advocated**

- Allocate funds for disseminating research findings
- Devise concrete proposals for harnessing available funds
- Bolster institutional capacities to increase the changes of their project proposals being deemed eligible

## **C/ Research priorities by topic identified by participants**

Participants went through each topic and listed the more relevant lines of inquiry that research should pursue in terms of *climate change and development*.

### **C.1 Water and agriculture :**

- Control over water (desalinification techniques, effectiveness of artificial rain, studies on retention basins, etc.)
- Adaptation strategy for agro-forestry and analysis of the long-term sustainability of this in the face of climate change (and resultant temperature rises, increased CO<sub>2</sub> concentration, hydric stress, etc);
- Research into reclamation of land degraded by salinification,
- Analysis of how small farmers welcome the measures identified,
- Devise strategy for prolonging the crop-growing calendar in the Sahel: review farming systems and try to design new ones so that land can be farmed for more than just the three years of the hot seasons),
- Improve methods for conserving and processing agricultural products,
- Implement new knowledge in the form of better practices,
- Raise awareness and spread word of climate change research findings.

### **C.2 Health:**

- Studies on diseases caused by the environment (infectious diseases, allergies, etc.),
- GM foods and how they affect human and environmental well-being,
- Studies of water-related diseases.

### **C.3 Coastal zones:**

- Develop models on the impact of climate change (sea level rises, etc.) on coastal structure and infrastructure, etc.,
- Populate data bases further in order to build more reliable models,
- Design adaptation strategies for coping with rising sea level.

### **C.4 Energy:**

- Devise appropriate technologies relating to new and renewable energies, especially in rural areas,
- Dissemination of energy-efficient policies,
- Examine rational management of biomass resources and how they can be harnessed for fuel purposes,
- Explore opportunities for investing in the promotion of more effective and energy-efficient power stations (technology transfer).

## Appendix 1: List of participants

Forename and Surname	INSTITUTION	TITLE	ADDRESS	Tel(Brx cel)	Fax	Email
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## Appendix 2: Programme



### Climate change and development

### AGENDA – Preliminary version

Friday 22 April 2005

*Moderator: Masse LO: Director of ENDA LEAD Francophone Africa programme*

TIME	EVÉNT	ACTIVITIES	MODERATION
08:30	<b>Registration</b>	Registration of participants	
09:00 – 09:20	<b>Opening ceremony</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Welcome address by Co-ordinator of Energy, Environment and Development Programme (Jean Philippe THOMAS)</li> <li>Speech by Director of LEAD Francophone Africa programme (Masse LO)</li> <li>Speech by IIED representative (Hannah REID)</li> </ul>	
09:20 – 09:30	<b>Plenary sessions</b>	Presentation of Participants <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participants' profiles</li> <li>Expectations from workshop</li> </ul>	Masse LO
09:30 – 09:45	<b>Plenary sessions</b>	Orientation of work (Jean Philippe THOMAS) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Purpose of workshop</li> <li>Results anticipated</li> <li>Programme</li> </ul>	Masse LO
09:45 – 10:05	<b>Plenary sessions</b>	Presentation of documentation summary (Oussouby TOURE)	Masse LO
10:05 – 10:40		General discussions	
10:40 – 11:00	<b>Coffee break</b>		
11:00 – 11:30	<b>Plenary session</b>	Presentation of results of focus groups (Nogoye THIAM)	Masse LO
11:30 – 12:30	<b>Plenary session</b>	General discussions	Masse LO
12:30 – 12:45	<b>Plenary sessions</b>	Presentation of terms of reference for work groups (Oussouby TOURE)	Masse LO
12:45 – 14:00	<b>Lunch</b>		

14:30 – 16:00	<b>Work groups</b>	Group 1: Discussions on priority research topics	Moderator : Assize TOURE Reporter: Moussa NABOU
	<b>Work groups</b>	Group 2: Discussions on policy research	Moderator: David Samuel NJIKI NJIKI Reporter: Babacar SOW
16:00-16:30	<b>Coffee break</b>		
16:30 – 16:45	<b>Work groups</b>	Validation of work group reports	
16:45 – 17:15	<b>Plenary sessions</b>	Presentation and discussions of working group reports	Masse LO
17:15 – 17:30	<b>Plenary sessions</b>	Closing ceremony	

*Saturday 23 April 2005*

*Moderator : Moussa SECK: Coordinator of ENDA SYSPRO programme*

<b>TIME</b>	<b>EVÉNT</b>	<b>ACTIVITIÉS</b>	<b>MODÉRATION</b>
09:00 – 09:15	<b>Opening ceremony</b>	Opening ceremony <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcome address from the Co-ordinator of Energy, Environment and Development Programme (Jean Philippe THOMAS)</li> <li>• Speech by the IIED representative (Hannah REID)</li> </ul>	
09:15 – 09:30	<b>Plenary sessions</b>	Orientation of work (Jean Philippe THOMAS) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Purpose of workshop</li> <li>• Anticipated results</li> <li>• Programme</li> </ul>	Moussa SECK
09:30 – 09:45	<b>Plenary sessions</b>	Presentation of main results from national workshop (Oussouby TOURE)	Moussa SECK
09:45 - 10:15	<b>Plenary session</b>	General discussions	Moussa SECK
<b>10:15 - 10:35</b>	<b>Coffee break</b>		
10:35 – 10:55	<b>Plenary sessions</b>	Report on the situation in Benin and Niger	Moussa SECK
10:55 – 11:15	<b>Plenary session</b>	Discussions	Moussa SECK
11:15– 11:35	<b>Plenary sessions</b>	Report on the situation in the Ivory Coast and Mali	Moussa SECK
11:35 – 11:55	<b>Plenary sessions</b>	Discussions	Moussa SECK
11:55 – 12:15	<b>Plenary sessions</b>	Presentation of the terms of reference for the work groups	Moussa SECK
<b>12:15 – 13:30</b>	<b>Lunch</b>		
13:30 – 15:00	<b>Work groups</b>	Group 1: Discussions on priority research topics	Moderator: Prof. Pascal HOUENOU  Reporter: Ambroise U. Foutou
13:30 – 15:00	<b>Work groups</b>	Group 2: Discussions on research policies	Moderator: Masse Lô  Reporter: Babacar SOW
<b>15:00 - 15:20</b>	<b>Coffee</b>		
15:20 – 15:45	<b>Work groups</b>	Validation of work group reports	
15:45 – 16:15	<b>Plenary session</b>	Presentation of group reports and discussions	Moussa SECK
16:15 – 16:30	<b>Plenary session</b>	Summary of work. Closure	