

Climate for Development in Africa Programme (ClimDev Africa)

Description

Climate for Development in Africa (ClimDev Africa) is a new integrated programme that addresses the need to improve climate observations and services in Africa in support of development planning and achievement of the Millennium Development goals. The Programme will be implemented as a partnership between the providers of climate information (principally the national meteorological and hydrological services) and users of climate information. The programme outputs will include:

- 1. strengthened climate observation networks and improved data management,
- 2. new and improved climate services for a variety of user needs,
- 3. incorporation of climate risk management practices in development planning, and
- 4. raised awareness and enhanced political engagement among African national decisionmakers concerning the importance of addressing climate change-related issues.

The expected outcomes associated with Programme implementation will include improved food security and opportunities for agricultural growth, better protection from malaria and other climate sensitive diseases, better management of water resources, better management of disaster risks, improved environmental sustainability, and more judicious use of energy resources.

The 10-year Programme is expected to be formally launched in 2008 after a design phase is completed.



Added Value

GEO could help by assisting ClimDev Africa partners in resource mobilization efforts. The successful launch of ClimDev Africa would constitute a significant early success for GEO. Through improved climate risk management in a number of SBAs, implementation of ClimDev Africa will address many GEO goals and support sustainable development in Africa.

Relevance to GEO

The ClimDev Africa Programme responds most directly to the Climate SBA of GEO. However, it is specifically designed to improve climate risk management in Africa in a variety of SBAs. It is therefore highly relevant to achieving development goals in the weather, agriculture, water, health, disaster management, and energy SBAs. Data sharing, capacity building, and outreach (in particular disseminating knowledge of climate risk management throughout Africa) are additional elements of the Programme that contribute to GEO's goals.

The Programme directly addresses GEO tasks

- CB 07-01 (building regional and national capacity),
- US 07-02 (Millennium Development Goals),
- US 07-03 (environmental risk management).

Participating Organizations

- The Global Climate Observing System
- World Meteorological Organization
- African Union Commission
- UN Economic Commission for Africa
- African Development Bank
- UK Department for International Development
- International Research Institute for Climate and Society
- World Food Programme, and others.
- Potential donors also include several G-8 countries.

Current Status and Next Steps

ClimDev Africa has substantial high-level political support within Africa. Significantly, key African partners include the African Union Commission (AUC), the UN Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), and the Africa Development Bank (ADB). In January 2007, the Assembly of the African Union, comprised of AU Heads of State, endorsed the Programme and requested the AUC, UNECA, and ADB to further develop and implement the Programme and to report on its progress every other year.

At the recent (29 March–1 April 2007) Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development ministers requested ECA to develop and implement the Programme in collaboration with relevant partners.

In April 2007 the Programme was cited in the UN Security Council debate on the impact of climate change on peace and security as an example of collaboration within Africa, and the supportive efforts of development partners were acknowledged. Important next steps include finalizing and approving the detailed Programme proposal and resource mobilization.

Commitments for over ten million USD have been made to date, with a major contribution announced by the UK's Department for International Development. However, the total cost of the 10-year programme is estimated to be approximately \$250 million, so fundraising remains a key concern. GEO could play an important role in helping to facilitate the mobilization of resources for ClimDev Africa.