



# Note

## **EAC Climate Change Forum**

### Implementing adaptation strategies to climate change: state of play and stakeholders “involvement”

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#### Summary

Based on data, statistics and interviews from Tanzania, Uganda, Burundi, Rwanda and Kenya, this note provides an overview of top-sectorial climate challenges faced in the region, looking at their representation in the current national adaptation strategies, including the status of implementation of those adaptation strategies.

This note uses a sectorial approach to present major climate change impacts and how their consequences are addressed by current adaptation strategies (i.e. mainly National Adaptation Plan, National Adaptation Programme of Action and Nationally Determined contributions). Moreover, the note would look at stakeholders’ « involvement /consultation» in the development and implementation of relevant and efficient adaptation strategies.

# The top-sectors at stake for climate change

## Agriculture

While agriculture still represents the backbone of East African economies, this sector is unfortunately the one most directly affected by climate. Undeniably, the consequences of climate change on the agricultural sector have the biggest impact on people lives. In fact, in Tanzania, agriculture provides source of livelihood for more than 65% of the population and contributes to more than 29% of the national GDP and more than 24% of total export earnings.

Another interesting fact mentioned by Mr Okot Alfred, head of Climate Change department at the Ministry of water and environment of Uganda, is that changing weather patterns are making it difficult for farmers in the country to plan using the traditional knowledge of the two planting seasons which seemed much easier to predict. This lack of predictability of weather events causes the destruction of an average of 800,000 ha of crops resulting into losses exceeding USD\$ 47m. Overall, the negatives consequences of changing climate on agriculture are very diverse (though often related to water resources): decrease in rainfall, increase in rainwater acidification and extreme weather events such as drought and floods that affect water quality, loss of soil fertility, shrink in rangelands used for livestock feeding, increased outbreak and prevalence of crop pest and livestock diseases, etc...

## Energy

Energy sector is also regularly struck by climate change. Indeed, in Tanzania and Rwanda for instance, climate change affects energy in terms of power generation and access, especially because of

variation in rainfall and evaporation caused by droughts. Similarly, public energy infrastructures are also often struck by extreme meteorological events.

An expert Mr Yves from Energy sector asserted that Rwanda's energy security may be at risk as hydropower contributes 50% of electricity, making it vulnerable to variation in rainfall and evaporation. This example demonstrates the challenge of considering climate change challenges sector by sector, as some issue such as water, are of concerns of many of them.

## Tourism

The tertiary sector, especially tourism, also suffers from adverse impacts of climate change. Indeed, climate change could actually devalue countries' touristic attraction, which is widely linked to biodiversity.

It is possible to notice several cases where climate change impacts the attractiveness of touristic places. A researcher in biodiversity in Rwanda affirmed that tourism in the country is actually dependent on the survival of gorillas in the Volcanoes National Park, and the preservation of the Nyungwe and Gishwati forests and Akagera National Park. These areas of natural beauty are biodiversity hotspots which are highly vulnerable to changes in temperature and rainfall that could reduce viable habitat and allow the spread of diseases. Moreover, water local issues like disappearance of north lakes in Burundi can also have disastrous consequences for tourism and the overall development of the country, since these phenomenon affect biodiversity and therefore the attraction potential of these areas.

# Reflection of climate change challenges within climate

## adaptation strategies & its implementation

### Are the most vulnerable sectors reflected in the climate adaptation strategies of the region?

Different mechanisms have been developed under the UNFCCC to assist countries in adapting to climate adverse effects. Under these mechanisms, countries have to develop their adaptation strategies, under their National Adaptation Plan (NAP), their National Adaptation Programmes of Action (of Action) (NAPA), as well as more recently their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).

This second part aims at assessing how sectorial climate change challenges raised in the first part are addressed within climate adaptation plans and strategies in the five countries of this study. Its purpose is also to look at concrete examples of implemented measures to better understand the efficiency of climate adaptation strategies.

Several efforts have been made by countries to adapt their climate adaptation strategies to the top sectorial challenges. For instance, many countries have set out clear and relevant models in order to tackle with precision some of the issues mentioned above.

Tanzania has developed a number of national and sector-specific climate change adaptation related strategies. For instance, the National Adaptation Program of Action (NAPA) ranked 12 sectors in their order of importance and the top ones were agriculture, water, energy, forestry and health which reflect the most vulnerable sectors in the country. Primary, secondary and tertiary sectors are represented in the Tanzanian adaptation strategy.

In Kenya, the National Climate Change Action Plan

(NCCAP) 2013-2017 prioritizes adaptation actions in agriculture, livestock, water, environment, infrastructure, sustainable livelihoods, energy infrastructure and tourism sectors.

Similarly, Mr Faustin Deputy Director General of Rwanda Environment Management Authority (REMA) reveals that most affected sectors by climate change impacts like Agriculture, Water resources management, Infrastructure, Energy and Tourism are well captured and reflected in NAPA and NDC since Rwanda is not yet developing and submitting National Adaptation Plans. Indeed, he confirmed that most of the adaptation measures are being implemented to reduce vulnerability of those sectors, which are once again those considered as most vulnerable to climate change.

Last but not least, Burundi has several documents in which it details its adaptation strategies in relation to priority sectors. NAPA 2007 points to four sectors in particular: (i) Landscapes and Infrastructure, (ii) Agriculture, (iii) Livestock, and (iv) Health. Two other texts are inspired by the NAPA and detail the 4 priority sectors in 6 sub-sectors including (i) energy; (ii) agriculture and livestock farming; (iii) forestry; (iv) water resources; (v) natural ecosystems and; (vi) health. The sector of tourism and its challenges might be the one less considered in the country at the moment

Thus, climate adaptation strategies in EAC countries seem to use a sectorial approach that focuses on top affected sectors in the region at the moment. Given the reflection of most of the top sectors in texts like NAPA or NDCs, the coherence of climate adaptation strategies with on-the-ground realities seems to be correct in the region. However, having the relevant policy / strategy framework does not ensure coherent implementation, and is tackling the challenges of all sectors.

## **Is the climate adaptation strategy of the EAC countries efficiently implemented?**

Most EAC countries seem to go beyond the text and have put in place some concrete programmes, projects / actions to support their climate adaptation strategies.

In Burundi, where life highly depends on agriculture, the NDC relies on capacity building as an adaptation strategy. This involves between other supporting the research work of the specialized agencies to "identify short-cycle disease-resistant crop varieties, including maize and beans.

In Kenya, regarding energy production, the Olkaria geothermal power development project is a key example of an adaptation strategy designed to avail renewable energy. The project creates a conducive environment for sustainable growth in Kenya. This is in line with climate change actions highlighted in Kenya's 2015 second national Communication to the UNFCCC.

In Burundi, although tourism is not so much developed for the moment, NDCs intends to promote tourism by creating attracting biodiversity protected areas. This would be a way to compensate losses of other sectors caused by climate change.

More globally, in Uganda, the country has made tremendous achievements in terms of climate change adaptation. Ministry of Water and environment was identified to coordinate the current implementation of the 9 priority adaptation intervention NAPA projects which include: (i) Community tree growing project, (ii) land degradation management project, (iii) strengthening meteorological services project, (iv) community water and sanitation project, (v) water

for product project, (vi) drought adaptation project, (vii) vectors, pest and disease control project, (viii) Indigenous knowledge and Natural resources management project, and (ix) climate change and development planning project.

According to these examples, there is no doubt that strategies adopted by the five countries have widely implied concrete and efficient measures reflecting the most affected sectors by climate change.

However, it remains a few brakes to the implementation of projects and initiatives related to climate adaptation strategies.

First, Kenya suffers from a lack of coherent data to implement relevant measures. Indeed, bodies concerned by climate change do not often provide specialized or contextualized data on adaptation. The Climate Change Directorate, which runs the climate change resource center, has developed a climate change knowledge portal. Presently, the information on the portal is scanty and generalized. It is not disaggregated on factors like gender, sector or regions and does not indicate statistics.

Secondly, in Tanzania, the effective implementation of adaptation strategies is hampered mostly by inadequate financial resources. The National Climate Change Strategy (2012) estimates cost of addressing climate change challenges at US\$ 500 million per year by 2030 which could rise to US\$ 1 billion by 2050; while the current mobilized climate finance is less than 50% of annual estimates. Also, other challenges which hinder implementation of the strategies are limited expertise and deficiencies in coordination among the government institutions and non-state actors.

## **Consultation and inclusion of private sector's stakeholders**

## In the development of NAPAs and NDCs

### The current state of private sector consultation on climate strategies

The purpose of this third part is to present the state of play of private sector's stakeholders' involvement in the development of climate adaptation strategies such as NAPAs or NDCs.

Despite efforts to involve private stakeholders in the process of adaptation strategies development, it seems that some very important gaps remain in order to take into account the voices of private sector stakeholders. Three main categories of gaps can be raised: lack of inclusivity in the development of climate adaptation strategies, lack of communication/information provided to private stakeholders to be more committed in the development of strategies, and methodological gaps regarding to the organization of stakeholders consultation.

#### → Lack of inclusivity

East African Countries seem to suffer from traditional technocratic practices, which could often imply gaps/isolation between decision centers and communities concerned. This lack of inclusivity in decision making processes is a factor that can potentially lead to inefficient or irrelevant strategies or measures.

In Uganda, the process of developing the NAPA, NAP and the NDC seems to have been largely left to the technocrats to the exclusion of other stakeholders. There has been limited involvement of other key stakeholders in the development of these processes. According to the interviewees, agro processors, SMEs, academia and manufacturers are

concerned about their inadequate involvement in these processes.

Similarly, in Rwanda, such consultations are generally done at inter ministerial departments whereby policy makers and staff suggest actions to include in adaptation programmes. Which means farmers and their organizations are not likely to be consulted. In fact, Eric from Urwibutso enterprise and Olivier from Inyange industries submitted that, before developing important documents like NDCs, NAPAs or NAPs, instead of consulting staff of private sector federation often sitting in their offices at headquarter, Government institutions should focus on business owners at grassroots level. Since they are the one affected by climate change in many ways, they may have insights on what is needed and what is required for them to produce more sustainably and become more resilient.

Moreover, Jérémie Kayobera, a head of an agribusiness company from Burundi, explained that he did not contribute to NAPA or NDC. One of his explanation is that many agro businesses may not be implemented near Bujumbura, the main decision centre of the country.

These few examples prove the lack of inclusivity of consultation processes, certainly on of the major problems regarding private sector consultation. There seems to be a great challenge to wider the scope of consultation processes to interrogate more relevant stakeholder and to take into account realities from the ground.

*Best case example:* In Kenya, organized entities like KEPSA and the KESSF (Kenya Small Scale Farmers Federation) are currently being consulted in the development of the NCCAP 2018 – 2022. These organizations are part of regular working groups and often participate to consultation meetings.

→ **Limited information sharing and education**

In the region, the vicious seems to be that, except for a number of organized entities, individual agro-processors and related groups at the grassroots level reported that they had not been consulted in any of the consultation processes. As a result, this group of stakeholders lacked sufficient knowledge on the contents of the NAP and related documents to determine if their needs have been / are being addressed.

In addition, in Kenya it was reported that there is an inadequate number of extension officers to pass information to small scale producers and agro processors.

In Tanzania, there is a lack of coherence in the consultation methodology since most of consulted organisations and institutions seem not to be specifically aware of the adaptation strategies and the current process of developing NAP in Tanzania.

Without a coherent and inclusive communication and information plan on adaptation strategies to involve fully private stakeholders, their implementation and their overall success can be questioned.

→ **Methodological constraints**

In Tanzania, there seems to be a concern on the way consultations are often done. Most of consulted organizations and institutions indicated that consultations are often done as just one-off workshop/meeting. Also, draft documents are mostly shared in few days' time or during the consultation workshop/meeting. These both limit thorough review/analysis and provision of comprehensive comments and inputs. Therefore, it was made clear that they would prefer active and comprehensive consultation process rather than passive one-off event (workshop/meeting). This

entails being able to receive documents in substantial time and being provided with right platform to actively contribute and reasonable time to prepare their comments and inputs.

Additionally, in Kenya, the local and national governments need to better plan for the consultative process. There were several complaints about the limited time period granted to review the documents which tend to be quite technical. Moreover, the scheduling of the meetings seems often also tight which does not provide enough time to prepare them.

*Best case example:* in Tanzania, number of methodologies were used for consultations. These were done mostly through stakeholders' consultation workshops/meetings and submission of inputs/views via email, hard copies or other online platforms (such as websites). Other means were face-to-face interviews/meetings and questionnaires. The consultations were done directly to the headquarter office, senior officials/head of organisation or department/section, responsible junior officers or through members/agents (for the case of network organisations/institutions).

**Recommendations and potential solutions to address stakeholders involvement challenges**

- Strengthen public participation so that adaptation strategies could take into account local/national specificities to a wider extent. This could be improve by organizing seminars or workshops in several localities facing different type of challenges/realities.

- Open up platforms for stakeholders to participate in the development and implementation process for effective results. This could fill the lack of digitize data and would allow to create strong communication channels for stakeholders.
- Government should provide a comprehensive assessment of previous policies/strategies in order for the stakeholders to gain a better understanding of the background of the policy framework, empowering them to suggest revision and action. This could reduce the distance between technocrats' offices and on-the-ground actors.
- Prefer active and comprehensive consultation process rather than passive and one-off event (workshop/meeting). This means being able to receive (draft) documents in substantial time and provide with relevant platform to actively contribute, with a reasonable time to prepare their comments and inputs. This would contribute to more coherent adaptation strategies and a more effective implementation, addressing the challenges/priorities faced by stakeholders in the region in the different top-sectors affected by climate change.



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