

REPORT

1st Dialogue on Resource Mobilization to support the adaptation and resilience of agriculture in Africa



Rabat (Skhirate) - Morocco

22-23 July 2019



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Initiated by the African Adaptation Initiative (AIA), in collaboration with the African Agriculture Adaptation Initiative (AAA), and in partnership with the World Bank, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the support of various actors (Rocky Mountain Institute (RMI), Africa Risk Capacity (ARC), Ernst & Young, FINRES), was organized and conducted the first African Dialogue for the mobilization of resources, support and expertise to promote the adaptation and resilience of agriculture in Africa

An African dialogue held in accordance with an intense agenda, attached as Annex I to this report, on 22 and 23 July 2019, in the seaside town of Skhirate, near the capital Rabat of the Kingdom of Morocco, in the presence of twenty-seven (27) African countries and some sixty (60) participants (Annex II).

The objectives that have been set and achieved for this dialogue can be summarized as follows:

- Review progress made in the implementation of African countries' Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), with a focus on objectives related to the agricultural sector.

- Share experiences on initiatives and actions of the AAA, IAA and Member States to advance the national agenda on low-emission, climate-resilient and sustainable agriculture.
- Explore ways to maximize existing financing opportunities, including the Green Climate Fund (GCCF), to mobilize resources on the scale of the needs of the agricultural sector in Africa to address climate constraint.
- Identify the need for support for effective and strategic approaches to address the challenges of agricultural adaptation in Africa.
- Promote the exchange of experiences and expertise and establish a framework for collaboration between Member States to share information and experiences on the implementation of NDCs in support of the adaptation of the agricultural sector.

The solemn opening was attended by Mrs Abir Lemseffer (Director General of the AAA Foundation) and His Excellency Ambassador Seyni Hussein Nafo (Coordinator of the IAA Initiative), in the presence of eminent personalities and representatives of the Moroccan Ministry of Agriculture and representatives of the Ministries of Agriculture and National Authorities Designated to the Green Climate Fund of African countries, as well as international organizations.

The opening saw concise presentations of the AAA and AAI initiatives as well as the sharing of experience by the Moroccan Agricultural Development Agency, an entity accredited by the Adaptation Fund and the Green Climate Fund. The elements to remember would be:

- AAI is an African strategic initiative with AAA as one of its main armed forces for the development of the agricultural sector in Africa. It allows for the mobilization of human, institutional and financial capacities, making available to African countries at the continental level:
 - o The best expertise and best practices;
 - o An African platform to support FVC DNAs/NPFs;
- AAA is the best continental reference for the exchange of good practices in adaptation, resilient actions and activities in agriculture in Africa, which will work to initiate programmes/projects in accordance with countries' priorities and needs.

The Dialogue's work then focused, during the rest of the scheduled sessions, on the following aspects:

- Progress in the implementation of agricultural actions of Nationally Determined Contributions (adapted from a study carried out by FAO), presented by Mr Riad Balaghi (AAA), highlighting the following key elements:
 - o Require an analysis of the agricultural components of the CDNs of all African countries;
 - o Vulnerability quantification and adaptation metrics;
 - o Address implementation challenges, in particular those related to the financing of planned agricultural actions;

- Work with partners and donors to meet the requirements and objectives of the Paris Agreement;
- Presentation of FAO's priority areas of intervention.
- A series of questions encouraging active participation and exchange of experiences and good practices between participants, over two sessions moderated by Ambassador Seyni Nafo, summarized as follows:
 - *How/what was the process of formulating the agricultural component of the CDNs?*
 - *How do you see the implementation of the agricultural component of the CDNs?*
 - *What are the needs and gaps to move forward more quickly?*
 - *Do you plan a review of the agricultural component of your NDC in accordance with the provisions of the Paris Agreement?*

The very rich debates and discussions made it possible to collect a series of extremely important recommendations for the future of the initiatives and the dialogue and tools made available by these initiatives. The discussion not only highlighted their need for Africa, but also and above all contributed to validating the relevance of the mechanism that will coordinate more and better in order to federate support and assistance for appropriate consideration and implementation of the adaptation components of agriculture in the NDCs.

One of the highlights and central moments of this first dialogue was the presentation of the Pan-African Climate Finance Access Programme (IAA/GCF) for Agricultural Adaptation by Ambassador Seyni Nafo. Overall, it is about providing the most relevant expertise adapted to the constraints and needs of African countries, including access to a directory of international and national experts active at the African, regional and national levels. The programme also facilitates access to and mobilization of both public and private resources at the national and/or international levels for agricultural adaptation within the framework of the CDNs and national and local strategic plans and programmes to combat climate change, in line with the provisions of the Paris Agreement. This support proposed by the Pan-African programme will contribute not only to the provisions of the Paris Agreement, but also to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

The second day saw presentations from the various partners, sharing their experiences and know-how in the fields of science, investment, mobilization and access to resources, and the consideration of risks and insurance related to the agricultural sector in the face of the effects and impacts of climate change:

The first session presented new approaches to support countries in their efforts to adapt to climate change and finance investments.

- The first presentation of the day was the presentation of the results of the participants' survey on climate finance. This presentation by the Rocky Mountain Institute (RMI) helped to better identify the needs of participants in order to strengthen their ability to access climate-related financing.
- The second presentation provided a more detailed explanation of the type of services that will be offered to countries integrating the "Pan-African Readiness" programme

presented by Ambassador Nafo on Day 1. The approach proposed by FINRES makes it possible to better understand climate hazards and climate change, from an economic and financial point of view, in order to support decision-making and investment for resilience, particularly in the agricultural sector. A strong focus of readiness and FINRES support will be on capacity building for national stakeholders.

The second session focused on investment plans and access to finance to implement climate change programmes.

- The first presentation by Ernst & Young illustrated the investment plan approach, giving the example of the work carried out as part of the REDD+ Catalytic Fund. This fund is intended to finance between US\$4 billion and US\$5 billion in projects in countries with high forest cover, to ensure the protection of carbon stocks and biodiversity. The presentation also focused on the definition of "bankable" projects from the point of view of their maturity (economic, legal, etc.).
- The second presentation focused on AAA investment plans in Morocco, Côte d'Ivoire and Mali, with the support of the World Bank and the German government (NDC Partnership). Four new investment plans are being implemented with the support of the World Bank and the French Development Agency. The process followed and the main lessons and priorities by country were described. This presentation made it possible to exemplify the direct support provided by AAA to African countries in the implementation of Determined Contributions at the National level.
- The last presentation focused on the African Risk Capacity multi-country insurance mechanism. This presentation provided an opportunity to update participants on the progress of the mechanism in Africa and on recent and future developments.

The last session of the workshop focused on the recommendations and conclusions. Thus, the work of the first African dialogue recommends:

- 1- Formalization of the "Dialogue on resource mobilization to support adaptation and resilience of agriculture in Africa" as an "African Forum" bringing together the designated national authorities/national focal points of the Green Climate Fund and other climate financial mechanisms (e. g. Adaptation Fund, Global Environment Facility, Climate Investment Fund) with the African Adaptation Initiative (AAI) as secretariat;
- 2- Establishment of technical assistance covering:
 - Support for the formulation of NDCs and other strategic documents on adaptation and resilience of the agricultural sector in Africa;

- Strengthening the scientific and technical capacities of all stakeholders concerned;
 - Provision of expertise in resource mobilization;
 - Creation and consolidation of databases (including good practices, directory of experts) at continental and regional levels.
- 3- Strengthening country ownership of the Pan-African Climate Finance Access Program (AAI/GCF) for Agricultural Adaptation through:
 - a. Intensifying consultations with GCF, UNFCCC focal points;
 - b. Coherence and coordination at the regional and international level with other relevant initiatives to ensure complementarity and synergies;
 - c. Explore all other sources of funding to ensure the implementation of the Programme, using the CTF to de-risk funding (in the event that country envelopes are insufficient);
 - 4- Urgent needs for reasonable and efficient planning for an adequate and realistic implementation of CDN, considering how to involve continental, regional, thematic initiatives (such as AAA or AAI) in national and regional strategies and planning as well as future revisions of CDNs;
 - 5- Awareness raising on the roles that could be played by the various African climate initiatives, in particular the African Adaptation and Adaptation Initiative (AAI) of Agriculture in Africa (AAA), in support of African countries for the implementation of climate adaptation and resilience actions, particularly in the fields of agriculture;
 - 6- Update of the analysis conducted by FAO on the agricultural components of CDNs for adaptation, mitigation, synergies & co-benefits. This update could focus on quantifying vulnerability and adaptation metrics in this sector;
 - 7- Establishment of an analysis of the barriers, difficulties, with which countries are confronted in terms of resource mobilization and access to Readiness and National Adaptation Plans;
 - 8- Improvement of climate-related scientific production in Africa and the taking into account of technical and administrative reports produced by Governments for the preparation of situation reports, the assessment of climate change and the suggestion of appropriate measures, in particular for the agricultural sector within the framework of the CDNs and other continental, national and local strategic plans;
 - 9- Readjustments of CDNs, when contributions are decided and undertaken at national level, must be based on accessible, reliable and up-to-date scientific and socio-economic data and information;
 - 10- Improving the admissibility of project funding requests to funds and donors by ensuring coherence and alignment of proposals with complementarity at the national level to foster synergies;

11-Alignment of partners with the national priorities of different African countries, including a revision of the approach to private sector involvement in support of adaptation and agriculture in African countries.

Appendix I: Agenda

Monday, July 22nd

08:30 – 09:30	Registration Networking & Participants set up.
09:30 – 10:30	Opening Welcome & latest updates on AAA. Address & latest updates on AAI. Objectives – Overview and Expectation <i>Presentation & Participants' roundtable</i>
10:30 – 11:00	Coffee break
11:00 – 12:00	Status updates on the progress of the implementation of NDC and Agriculture targets in <i>Introductory presentation & Plenary discussion</i>
12:00 – 13:30	Networking Lunch
13:30 – 14:30	Status updates on the progress of the implementation of NDC and Agriculture targets in <i>Introductory presentation & Plenary discussion</i>
14:30 – 15:30	Moving the NDCs forward: means of the implementation. <i>Presentation & Discussion</i>
15:30 – 16:00	Refreshments
16:00 – 16:45	The AAI Pan-African readiness <i>Presentation & Discussion</i>
16:45 – 17:30	Experiences and approaches to support the readiness. <i>Presentation & Discussion</i>
17:30 – 18:30	Networking event

Tuesday, July 23rd

08:30 – 09:30	Networking
09:30 – 10:00	Presentation of the results of the survey <i>Questions & Answers</i>
10:00 – 10:30	Data & modelling approaches to support countries' readiness <i>Questions & Answers</i>
10:30 – 11:00	Coffee break
11:00 – 12:00	AAA Investment Plans CFRN - Agroforestry catalytic fund (example of other investment plan) African Risk Capacity
12:00 – 12:30	Wrap-up, next steps & closing
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch break

Annex II: List of Participants

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Annexe III : Photos.





