

Africa Adaptation Initiative



Enhancing action on adaptation and addressing
loss and damage in Africa



www.africaadaptationinitiative.org

BACKGROUND

In response to a mandate from the African Heads of State, the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN) together with the African Group of Negotiators (AGN) developed the Africa Adaptation Initiative (AAI) to enhance support to Africa for adaptation and addressing loss and damage, in the context of the Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Green Climate Fund. The AAI was launched in Paris during the 21st Conference of the Parties (COP) in December 2015, by H.E. Abdel Fattah El Sisi, President of Egypt in his capacity as Coordinator of the Committee of African Heads of State and Government on Climate Change (CAHOSCC).

The 26th session of the African Union, held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in January 2016, established a Technical Working Group (TWG) to oversee the operationalisation of the AAI (AU Decision 603). The TWG Is Chaired by AMCEN and includes representatives of the AGN, the African Development Bank (AfDB), the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), the African Union Commission (AUC), New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) as well as other institutions and organisations as appropriate, such as the Africa Risk Capacity (ARC). The TWG will guide the AAI through the conceptual phase to operationalisation.

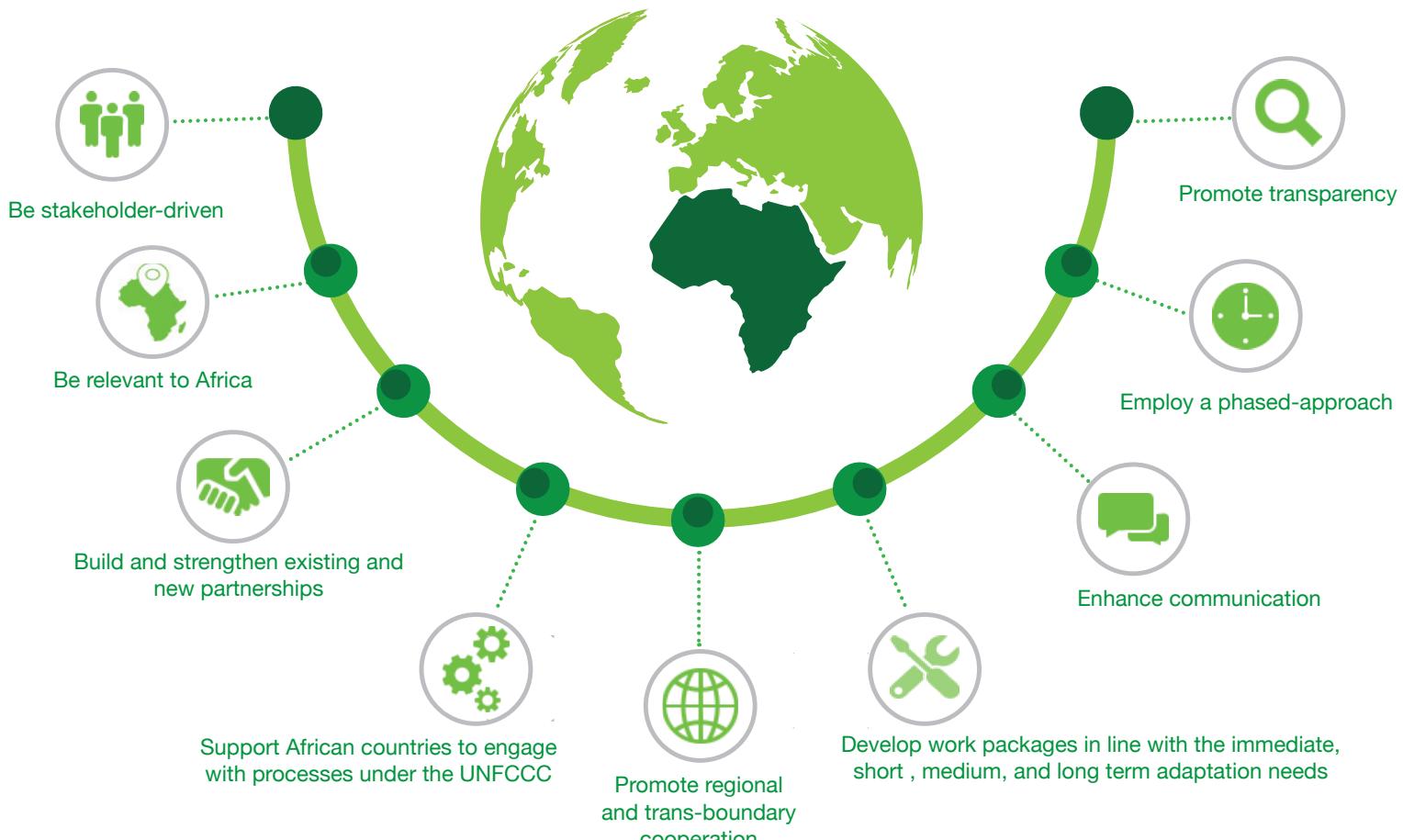


AIMS

The AAI aims to enhance action on adaptation, with the aim of addressing the adaptation financing gap, and implementing measures to address loss and damage in Africa. This will be done through partnerships with institutions and organisations undertaking relevant work on the continent to scale up and replicate on-going initiatives and develop proposals for new initiatives. The AAI will advocate for and facilitate access to existing and scaled-up resources for African countries to develop and implement policies, plans, and actions to support their efforts to adapt and address loss and damage. To this end, AAI will undertake a yearly assessment of results and impacts achieved in each of the focus areas and provide a yearly report mapping the state of on-going adaptation and loss and damage activities in Africa with clear recommendations for high-level political advocacy to AMCEN as well as CAHOSCC.

PRINCIPLES

In undertaking its work the AAI will:



PHASE 1 (2015 – 2016) ➤

A political mandate from African Heads of State and Government and endorsement from all 54 African countries was given.

The AAI was launched at COP 21 in Paris.

Two Technical Working Group meetings were held.

This phase of the AAI has been successfully achieved.



PHASE 2 (2017 – 2020) ➤

The AAI will play a facilitative role, working with partners to scale up and replicate adaptation action and approaches to address loss and damage. This phase will begin with facilitating support to African countries to develop and implement National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) through a partnership with UNDP.

AAI will develop a yearly report to map on-going initiatives on adaptation and addressing loss and damage and assesses progress towards meeting its objectives.



PHASE 3 (2020 – 2030)

The AAI will continue to work with partners to facilitate the scaling up and replicating of adaptation action and approaches to address loss and damage. Additional flagship programmes will be developed and additional resources will be mobilised.



AREAS OF FOCUS

The AAI aims to work with partners to facilitate access to support and implement activities in four key areas.

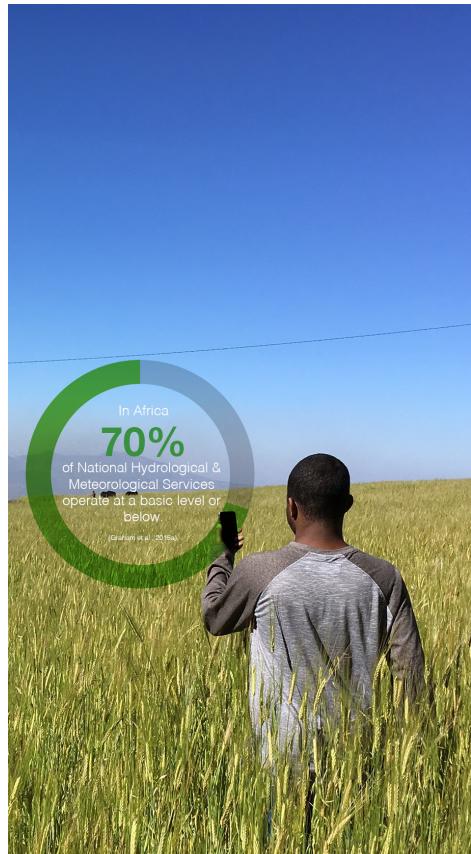


Pillar 1: Enhancing climate information services

GOAL: All African countries have climate information services adequate in quantity and quality to support decision making.

Targets and activities:

- Enhance observational infrastructure
 - Facilitate access to support the increase of coverage and maintenance of observational networks;
 - Facilitate access to support climate model development, regional down scaling and research; and
 - Facilitate the development and maintenance of a data portal for the dissemination of climate information services.
- Enhance the capacity to provide, analyse, and use climate information services and to develop models
 - Facilitate access to training and build capacity for climate scientists, modellers and technicians.
- Increase the number of African countries that have undertaken risk, vulnerability and loss and damage assessments and mapping
 - Facilitate access to support the undertaking of risk, vulnerability and loss and damage assessments and mapping to inform decision making.





Pillar 2: Strengthening policies and institutions

GOAL: Stronger continental, regional, and national institutional and policy frameworks to support decision making on adaptation and loss and damage in Africa.

Targets and activities:

- Increase the capacity of African countries to utilise UNFCCC processes to enhance action on adaptation and address loss and damage
 - Facilitate access to support the development and implementation of NAPs, INDCs & other mechanisms to address adaptation and loss and damage; and
 - Work with partners to develop methodologies to assess national adaptation needs and reflect these needs in developing national policies and adaptation plans.
- Strengthen national policies and institutions to support decision making on adaptation and addressing loss and damage
 - Facilitate access to support for capacity building through peer-to-peer learning;
 - Facilitate access to support for the development and strengthening of policies and institutions for decision making on both adaptation and loss and damage; and
 - Enhance understanding of developing and implementing approaches to address loss and damage.
- Enhance opportunities for the sharing of experiences and lessons learned between African countries and relevant stakeholders
 - Provide a space for African countries to share experiences, good practices and lessons learned and support peer-to-peer learning.





Pillar 3: Enhancing on the ground action

GOAL: Significantly increase the number of projects and programs being implemented to enhance adaptation and address loss and damage in Africa.

Targets and activities:

- Address the gaps and challenges to enhancing the implementation of adaptation actions and approaches to address loss and damage
 - Facilitate access to support African countries to identify gaps and challenges and address the barriers in the implementation of adaptation action and addressing loss and damage;
 - Facilitate access to capacity building to support African countries in developing fundable projects;
 - Work with partners to increase cooperation amongst African countries, accredited entities and other stakeholders to access support; and
 - Work with partners to develop regional projects to address the gaps and needs in key sectors such as water, agriculture, infrastructure and oceans economy.



Pillar 4: Climate finance and investments

GOAL: Increase access to funding and mobilise additional support to enable the implementation of adaptation actions and approaches to address loss and damage.

Targets and activities:

- Increase access to and mobilise additional finance to support enhanced action
 - Advocacy at high levels to ensure that commitments are translated into concrete finance for African countries;
 - Highlight the importance of investing in adaptation and addressing loss and damage by developing a business case for investing in adaptation and addressing loss and damage; and
 - Facilitate access to support to help African countries develop and implement adaptation projects and approaches to address loss and damage.



DELIVERY MODEL

The AAI is an African-led initiative which is strongly rooted in existing African institutions. The proposed delivery model is described below.

Political guidance: Political leadership to guide AAI will be provided by CAHOSCC and AMCEN.

Steering Committee: A steering committee comprising of the AMCEN bureau and chair of the AGN.

Technical Support Unit: The day-to-day operationalisation of the AAI will be coordinated by the TSU.

Africa Adaptation Initiative



For more information contact:
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The African Group of Negotiators (AGN)
Under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change