

# SCALING UP ADAPTATION ACTION

September 5th, 14:30- 15:30

FOCUSING ON AFRICA'S EFFORTS IN BUILDING CLIMATE RESILIENCE



## OVERVIEW

The Africa Adaptation Initiative, an Africa-led initiative endorsed by 54 African countries, is organising a panel discussion focusing on scaling up adaptation action in Africa.

Africa experiences widespread impacts from climate change, including biodiversity loss, water shortages, reduced food production, loss of lives, and reduced economic growth. Climate change is eroding the development gains of the continent, and it is estimated that Africa's GDP per capita was on average 13.6% lower compared to if climate change had not occurred. In a 1.5°C and 2°C world, it is expected that additional impacts will occur, increasing significantly in a higher warming scenario.

The IPCC points out that climate impacts will most probably degrade the livelihoods of many people, particularly fishermen, and farmers, aggravate food insecurity, and cause health issues. Agricultural productivity growth in Africa has reduced by 34% since 1961 due to climate change. The upsurge in mortality and morbidity will bring health systems to the brink. Combined with the increased population – notably in informal settlements and rapidly developing cities, with insufficient infrastructure – a growing number of people will be exposed to the effects of climate change. For example, while 54 million people in Africa were exposed to sea level rises in 2000, at least 108 million would be exposed in 2030, and up to 245 million by 2060. Heat waves would affect 360 to 440 million fragile people in cities by 2100 – compared to 27 million in 2010. This may contribute to at least millions of people from Africa migrating by 2050, mostly within Africa.

However, adaptation faces several constraints, including inadequate finance, climate information and infrastructure, capacity, technology, and institutional constraints. Adaptation continues to be underfunded, IPCC estimates that only 4–8% of tracked climate finance has been allocated to adaptation. Access to adequate financial resources is crucial for climate change adaptation. Assessments indicate that adaptation costs will rise rapidly with increasing climate change.

## **CLIMATE ADAPTATION IS FALLING SHORT OF WHAT IS NEEDED.**

Despite significant efforts on the continent, the scale of action on adaptation in Africa remains far short of current and growing needs. According to a report of the Africa Adaptation Initiative (AAI), African countries spend about 9-10% of domestic for climate adaptation. However, this remains insufficient to meet the growing needs. African countries' NDCs indicate that countries will need USD 579 billion between 2020 and 2030 to implement the adaptation needs identified in these NDCs. However, the adaptation finance gap in developing countries is likely five to 10 times greater than current international adaptation finance flows and continues to widen. At COP26, developed countries agreed to double their commitment to adaptation finance by 2025. But even if this target was to be met, it still remains insufficient to address the adaptation finance gap.

Sustained mobilisation of and access to adequate and the right type of financial resources at national and subnational levels, increased domestic technical capacities, and longer-term investments is crucial for climate change adaptation. Accelerating adaptation action and implementation on the continent is therefore crucial and necessary to ensure Africa's climate resilient development, and without which, the continent will continue to not realize the significant economic and investment potential.

There are significant opportunities for continued, scaled up investment in adaptation. The overall rate of return on investments in resilience is very high, with benefit-cost ratios ranging from 2:1 to 10:1, and even higher in some cases. Adaptation actions can be some of the most cost-effective investments a country prone to the impacts of climate change can make.

This session will focus on i) Raising the ambition on adaptation action and support for the continent, ii) highlighting significant efforts to advance adaptation action at scale on the continent, and iii) investment announcements related to adaptation.

## EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- Raise the ambition on adaptation action for the continent
- Enhance support to African-led initiatives such as the Africa Adaptation Initiative
- Inclusion of private sector actors in the climate adaptation actions
- Investment announcements related to adaptation
- Contribute to the African Leaders' Nairobi Declaration and Africa's position at COP28 in Dubai.

## SPEAKERS

### High-level opening- Adaptation in Africa: setting the scene

*Moderator ONE:* Mr. Ibrahima Cheikh Diong, United Nations Assistant- Secretary General, Director General of the African Risk Capacity (ARC) Group

### Opening remarks/ Scene setting

- H.E. Mostafa Madbouly - COP 27 Presidency and Prime Minister of Egypt
- H.E. John Kerry - United States Special Envoy for Climate Change
- H.E. Ban Ki Moon - Former UNSG - President and Chair of GGGI
- Hon. Huang Runqiu, Minister of Ecology and Environment, People's Republic of China

### Session ONE: Scaling up adaptation action: focusing on Africa's efforts in building climate resilience

- H.E. Julius Maada Bio - President of Sierra Leone
- H.E. Sahle-Work Zewde - President Ethiopia and AMCEN President
- H.E. Isaias Afwerki - President of Eritrea
- Dr. Graca Machel - Founder of Graca Machel Trust
- H.E. Baerbel Kofler- Parliamentary State Secretary, Germany

## **Session TWO: Scaling up adaptation finance: Catalyzing adaptation finance and supporting adaptation initiatives to accelerate action on the ground**

- Mr. Jean Pierre Elong Mbassi - Secretary General of United Cities and Local Governments Africa
- Mr. Ibrahim Thiaw - Executive Secretary, United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
- Mr. Achim Steiner - Administrator, United Nations Development Programme
- Prof. Petteri Taalas - Secretary General, The World Meteorological Organization
- Mr. Rodger Voorhies - President, Global Growth and Opportunity, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation
- Axel Van Trotsenburg - Vice President, World Bank

## KEY DISCUSSION POINTS

- Outcome of COP 27 and its implication for enhanced adaptation in Africa
- Africa's efforts to enhance adaptation action? What is needed to enhance adaptation?
- Climate adaptation and development, how can Africa enhance climate resilient development and what is needed?
- What global action is required on adaptation and what role can funders play in contributing to adaptation action?
- Women's leadership in climate adaptation, how can that be further supported?
- How can climate information services enhance climate adaptation? What is needed?
- How can governments and international organizations collaborate to mobilize additional resources for adaptation projects?

# AGENDA

Time	Segment/Speaker
	<i>Session Facilitator-</i> Mr. Ibrahima Chiekh Diong, United Nations Assistant- Secretary General, Director General of the African Risk Capacity (ARC) Group
	<b>Opening remarks</b>
3 minutes	H.E Mostafa Madbouly, COP 27 Presidency and Prime Minister of Egypt
3 Minutes	H.E. John Kerry- United States Special Envoy for Climate Change
3 Minutes	H.E Ban Ki Moon- Former UNSG- President and Chair of GGGI
3 Minutes	H.E Huang Runqiu, Minister of Ecology and Environment, People’s Republic of China
<b>Session ONE: Scaling up adaptation action: focusing on Africa’s efforts in building climate resilience (20 mins)</b>	
3 minutes	H.E Julius Maada Bio- President of Sierra Leone <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>West Africa efforts to enhance adaptation in Africa, including addressing coastal impacts. What is needed to enhance adaptation?</li> </ul>
3 minutes	H E Sahle-Work Zewde, President of Ethiopia and AMCEN President, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Africa's efforts to enhance adaptation action? What is needed to enhance adaptation?</li> </ul>
3 minutes	H.E Isaias Afwerki, President of Eritrea <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Food security and climate adaptation in Eritrea. What is needed to enhance adaptation in Africa?</li> </ul>
3 minutes	Dr. Graca Machel, Founder of Graca Machel Trust <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Women's leadership in climate adaptation, how can that be further supported?</li> </ul>
3 Minutes	H.E. Baerbel Kofler- Parliamentary State Secretary, Germany <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supporting Africa's efforts to enhance adaptation action- how this can be strengthened along the priorities and pillars of the AAI?</li> </ul>



<b>Session TWO: Scaling up adaptation finance: Catalyzing adaptation finance and supporting adaptation initiatives to accelerate action on the ground</b>	
3 minutes	Mr. Jean Pierre Elong Mbassi - Secretary General of United Cities and Local Governments Africa <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How can adaptation be enhanced in local governments and cities in Africa?</li> </ul>
3 minutes	Mr. Ibrahim Thiaw, Executive Secretary of UNCCD <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How does international cooperation play a role in disaster response and recovery, and its links to climate adaptation? What global efforts are needed to enhance adaptation?</li> </ul>
3 minutes	Mr Achim Steiner- Administrator of the UNDP <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Climate adaptation and development, how can Africa enhance climate resilient development and what is needed?</li> </ul>
3 minutes	Prof. Petteri Taalas, The World Meteorological Organization <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How can climate information services enhance climate adaptation? What is needed?</li> </ul>
3 minutes	Mr. Rodger Voorhies, President, Global growth and opportunity, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What global action is required on adaptation and what role can funders play in contributing to adaptation action?</li> </ul>
3 minutes	Axel Van Trotsenburg- World Bank Vice President <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How to integrate fiscal risk of adaptation, and how can that be supported?</li> </ul>