

7th Climate change and Development in Africa Conference (CCDA-VII)

Sub-theme 2: Climate information and Services in support of the Nationally determined contributions

THE ROLE OF CLIMATE INFORMATION AND SERVICES IN IMPLEMENTATION OF NDCs

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Outline



- Background
- State of Art
- Importance of CI & S
- Challenges
- Opportunities
- Role of CSOs
- Conclusion

Background



- The Paris Agreement
 - a landmark achievement in the international response to climate change
 - parties are committed to the transition to a low-emissions and climate-resilient future.
- NDCs are main national policy frameworks, under the UNFCCC,
 - are the primary means for governments to indicate to the international community the specific steps to tackle climate change within their countries
 - report on the progress made, and support needed toward achieving them.

Background



- NDCs belong to countries and effective implementation of these lies on capacity of right decision making tools.
- Availability of high quality climate observation and data would result in effective climate development policy.
- Quality climate observation are fundamental to reducing losses from extreme events to maximizing output from all climate sensitive sectors.
- Met departments are custodians of Climate Science and information

State of Art



- Development plans Vs the planning process (ministry of Finance)
 - O &OD
 - Devolution
- Consistence and altitude (IK) of stakeholders
- Capacity of extension and farmers
- Coordination of Institutions
- Mitigation and Adaptation

What are CS &I



- Climate services provide science-based and user-specific information relating to past, present and potential future climates and address each sector affected by climate at a global, regional and local level.
- The focus here is on Climate services –early warning, actions (short and term), climate sensitive sectors to enable adaptation and climate resilience....

Why CS&I



- Countries need to do informed decisions in sectors sensitive to climate in order to give rise to both substantial economic benefits and sustainable development .
- This can not only save lives and preserve assets, but also enhance safety, agricultural productivity and water security.
- Effective development and use of climate services can serve as a valuable aid to decision-making in many economic and social sectors.



- Effective climate service, from the generation of data, to data processing, generation of products, research, dissemination and communication involves a number of stakeholders
- AWS, Extension officers and sector ministries eg: agriculture, water
- stakeholders have to be brought to a common space of dialogue, cooperation and collaboration to enable effective plans

challenges



- Packaging of climate information:
 - The information is not presented in a form easily understood by the average person
 - The message is often not specific enough (to a geographical area, sector, economic activity, etc)
 - Usually with little attention to practical, action-oriented measures at national and local levels to cope and adapt

challenges



- Dissemination:
 - Information is not where it can be found by those that need to use it:
 - More on urban areas, practitioners, extension workers do not read scientific journals and conference declarations
 - Message is intermittent: humans needs continuous bombarded by a consistent message from multiple sources for a change in behavior
 - The nature of weather and climate science (sometimes conflicting predictions)

challenges



- Climate data is too coarse and not representative of agro-ecological conditions- need to look at spatial distributions of agromet stations; WMO suggest a weather stations after every 15KM
- Lack of confidence in data especially in short- and long-term predictability
- Short time window where information is provided
- Data limited to temperture and rainfall

Opportunity



- National Frameworks for Climate services
 - Eg: Kenya, Tanzania
- Bridge the gap by establishing a link between climate services and the Development plans process.
- Partnership through recognizing strength of diverse stakeholders

Role of CSOs



- CSOs might act as bridge between research institutions and the population, leading to a more direct dialogue.
- Giving voice to the most vulnerable groups through advocacy processes.
- Promoting a participatory and inclusive disaster risk reduction approach.
- Actively participating in inter-institutional coordination at local and national levels.

Conclusion



- In conclusion, there is a gap between the climate information, and the message needed to take concrete actions (complicates adaptation strategies)
- There is also a gap in making the information generated by science and researchers widely available
- Whose role to bridge this gaps?



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