



CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES OF CLIMATE CHANGE: *Post COP19 Perspective of East African Civil Society Organizations*

EAC Climate Change Policy Framework

**5th December 2013
Arusha, Tanzania**

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EAC'S OVERARCHING POLICY FRAMEWORK

EAC TREATY (1999)

**ENRM Protocol
(2006)**

**Climate Change
Policy (2011)**

**Climate Change
Strategy**

**Climate Change
Master Plan**

Policy Instruments

- Cap. 19 of the EAC Treaty on Environment and Natural Resources (Articles 111, 112 and 114)
- Protocol on Environment and Natural Resources Management (Articles 23, 24 and 35)
- Protocol on Sustainable Development of Lake Victoria Basin
- Article 40 of the Common Market Protocol on Environmental Management
- EAC Summit Declaration on Climate Change and Food Security (2011)
- EAC Climate Change Strategy and Master Plan
- EAC 4th Development Strategy (2011/12-2015/16)

EAC CLIMATE CHANGE POLICY (2011)

Goal: contribute to SD through harmonized and coordinated climate change strategies, programmes and actions

Objective: guide Partner States and stakeholders on the collective implementation of climate change adaptation and mitigation measures in the context of SD

Specific Objectives

1. Establish a regional framework for harmonized and coordinated response to climate change
2. Identify priority regional adaptation and mitigation actions and role of stakeholders
3. Enhance public awareness and communication on climate change (vulnerability, impacts, risks and responses)
4. Enhance capacity building (education, training, research, development, technology, information, knowledge management)
5. Promote climate research and observation systems (monitoring, detection, attribution and prediction)
6. Promote mainstreaming of climate change in national development planning including DRM and gender
7. Enhance climate change resource mobilization- EAC Climate Change Fund

Policy Priorities- Adaptation

- Climatic Vulnerability and Risk Reduction,
- Building socioeconomic resilience,
- Climate change adaptation planning and enabling environment (policies, strategies, plans and legislation),
- Sectoral approach to climate change mainstreaming

Policy Priorities-Mitigation

- Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMAs);
- Reducing Emissions from Forest Degradation and Deforestation (REDD+),
- Clean Development Mechanism (CDM),
- Emission Reduction,
- Sectoral approach to climate change mainstreaming

Supporting Elements

- Research-Monitoring, Detection, Attribution and Prediction
- Cross cutting issues- Capacity Building, Communication, Training and Public Awareness and Participation, Technology Transfer, Finance, Mainstreaming, Policy Negotiations
- **Priority Sectors:** *Water; Agriculture and Food Security; Energy; Wildlife and Tourism, Coastal and Marine; Land Use and Soil; Forestry and Wetlands; Human Health ; Infrastructure , Transport and Settlement; Disaster Risk Management (DRM); Waste Management; and Industry*

EAC CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY (2013-17)

Goal: to contribute to the successful implementation of EAC Climate Change Policy through strategic interventions

Vision: prosperous and climate resilient East Africa

Mission: to enhance a coordinated regional response to climate change in EAC for sustainable development

Strategic Objectives

- 1.To enhance climate change adaptation through vulnerability reduction, building socio-economic resilience, disaster risk reduction and adaptation planning.
- 2.To enhance sustainable development through climate change mitigation measures, including through green economy and low carbon development pathways.
- 3.To strengthen climate change knowledge generation through research, monitoring, detection and prediction.
- 4.To enhance climate change education and public awareness through communication, training, information and knowledge management and social empowerment including gender.
- 5.To build climate change response capacity through institutional strengthening, technology transfer, resource mobilization and partnership building and stakeholder involvement.
- 6.Promote sustainable climate change Financing Mechanism

EAC CLIMATE CHANGE MASTER PLAN (2013)

Goal: to strengthen regional cooperation through responding to climate change as a shared resources.

Vision: *climate resilient people, economies and ecosystems of the EAC by 2031*

Mission: long-term vision for a regional comprehensive framework to adapt and mitigate climate change

Specific Objectives

- 1.To provide an effective and integrated response to regional climate change adaptation;
- 2.To enhance the mitigation potential of Partner States in the energy, infrastructure, agriculture and forestry sectors;
- 3.To streamline and harmonise existing and on-going trans-boundary mitigation and adaptation projects or activities;
- 4.To foster strong international cooperation to address issues related to climate change including enhancing the negotiating ability of the Partner States in the African Union and other forums including the UNFCCC;
- 5.To mobilise financial and other resources to implement the above.

CC Programmes and Projects

Objectives

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|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation in Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA-EAC-SADC)- Tripartite CC Programme | <ul style="list-style-type: none">enabling <i>COMESA-EAC-SADC member states to increase investments in climate resilient /smart agriculture through successful adaptation and mitigation by 2016 (US\$ 90 million from EU, Norway and DfID)</i> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">Rolling Out AMCEN's Communication Strategy on Climate Change in EAC | <ul style="list-style-type: none">implementing AMCEN's Communication Strategy on Climate Change in EAC (US\$ 180,000 from IDRC) |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">Enhancing Climate Change Adaptation Policy Leadership in East Africa | <ul style="list-style-type: none">increase policy leadership, technical capacity and action readiness in climate change adaptation and development (US\$500,000-USAID) |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">Planning for Resilience in East Africa through Policy, Adaptation, Research, and Economic Development (PREPARED) | <ul style="list-style-type: none">strengthening the resiliency and sustainability of East African economies, trans-boundary freshwater ecosystems and communities (USAID) |

Institutional and Financial Arrangement

- The EAC Climate Change Coordination Unit- Technical proposal for the establishment of the EAC CCCU
- Currently under consideration through the ongoing EAC Institutional Review process
- EAC Climate Change Fund

Conclusions

- ❑ Establishment of an EAC Climate Change Coordination Unit and EAC Climate Change Information Centre;
- ❑ Operationalization of the EAC Climate Change Fund to enhance Resource Mobilization through the Regional Implementing Entity framework;
- ❑ Development of integrated evidence based decision making tools for community and ecosystem based adaptation planning and climatic risk management;
- ❑ conducting assessments and mapping of climatic vulnerability and impacts assessments to inform adaptation in sustainable and renewable energy; and
- ❑ Development of a concrete adaptation and mitigation projects

EAC Work Plan on UNFCCC

- there is insufficient funding for the implementation of the key decisions of COP18/CMP8 amongst other climate change initiatives in the region;
- a Regional Collaboration Centre on CDM hosted by the East African Development Bank (EADB) has been established in Kampala in partnership with the UNFCCC Secretariat;
- there exists a good number of highly experienced and influential personalities on climate change within the region who can be used in terms of providing high level advocacy on climate change;
- there are capacity challenges to effective engagement and participation in the international climate change policy dialogue; and
- Insufficient synergies, cooperation and collaboration in the implementation of UNFCCC and other related Multilateral Environmental Agreements by the Partner States.

Recommendations

- *Partner States to continue with active engagement in the UNFCCC negotiations on: the Ad hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform (ADP), and the Second Commitment Period of the Kyoto Protocol, in the discussion towards enhancing the sustainability, adequacy and predictability of these resources, including the potential to diversify revenue streams of the Adaptation Fund, and prepare for the review of the Adaptation Fund;*
- *Partner States to enhance their resource mobilization strategies particularly on direct access to climate change finance through establishment of National Implementing Entities to facilitate direct access of funds from the Adaptation Fund and other bilateral and multi-lateral financing mechanisms;*

Recommendations

- *EACS to initiate the process of designating the EAC Climate Change Fund as a Regional Implementing Entity (RIE) to access funds from the Adaptation Fund and other bilateral and multi-lateral financing mechanisms;*
- *EACS to initiate collaborations with the newly established Regional Centre of Excellence on CDM through the East African Development Bank (EADB);*
- *EACS to establish a High Level Committee on Climate Change Advocacy and appoint Regional Climate Change Ambassadors;*
- *Partner States and EAC Secretariat to increase their efforts and capacity in the preparation, negotiation and participation in COPs under the various Conventions; and*
- *EAC Secretariat to facilitate interaction of the Working Groups on Environment and Natural Resources with the EALA Committee on Agriculture, Natural Resources and Tourism.*