



Report on the Kick-off meeting of the Pan-African Regional Programme



The world-wide biggest Green Climate Fund Readiness proposal to date, encompassing 24 African countries focusing on implementation of low-carbon & climate-resilient priorities in agriculture and energy for agriculture, was launched on Monday, October 3, 2022, at Marriott Hotel in Rabat, Morocco.

This event could gather representatives of the National Designed Authorities of the following 20 countries, members of this Pan-African Regional Programme:

Benin, Chad, Comoros, Democratic Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Gabon, Equatorial Guinea, Eswatini, Guinea, Kenya, Liberia, Madagascar, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Togo, and Zambia.

Furthermore, five additional countries, which are not part of this Readiness Programme but could present a significant experience in developing Climate Smart Agriculture Investment Plans, also sent their NDA representatives:

Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Morocco, Lesotho, and Zimbabwe.

Beside the NDA representatives of these 25 African countries, several potential donors attended the event (Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GMBH, Agence Française de Développement, Embassies of the Netherlands and the United Kingdom of Great Britain, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), OCP Foundation, Open Society Foundations, Délégation de Wallonie-Bruxelles à Rabat, as well as several think tanks and projects (Climate Emergency Collaboration Group, Initiative Imal for Climate & Development-IICD, Global Green Growth Institute-GGGI, Positive Agenda Advisory).

The kick-off itself was articulated in five major moments:

1) Framing word of Ambassador Hussein Alfa NAFO, Coordinator of the African Adaptation Initiative (AAI):



In his welcome word, Ambassador Nafu summarized the different steps that brought to this readiness program, emphasizing that many regions of the world (Latin America, Asia, Small Islands) are considering following this example of multi-country Programme, and presented the logic of this 4 day events with a kick-off followed by dedicated workshops of CGIAR and UNDP.

2) Welcome word of Mrs. Abir Lemseffer, Director General of the Initiative for Adaptation of African Agriculture (AAA):

As Director General of the event's main organizer, Mrs. Lemseffer insisted on thanking all the co-organizers, stressing out the importance of partnerships, as a strong conviction of AAA Initiative. She also insisted on the fact that most of these partnerships are based on science, as a relevant tool for progress.



3) Word from Mr. Harold ROY-MACAULEY : One CGIAR Regional Director West and Central Africa:



Mr. Roy-Macauley insisted especially on the need to frame adaptation to climate change in Africa by integrating three main parameters:

- ◆ Availing decisions on climate change with application of this information
- ◆ Creating communities of practice (from local communities to government stakeholders and research institutes)
- ◆ Developing capacities by exchanging information and experience

He concluded saying that this event can step the right milestones for it.

4) Word from Mrs. Alexandra CASAZZA: Manager of the UNDP Resilience Hub for Africa:

Mrs. CASAZZA, participating remotely, thanked the organizers for the opportunity to organize in conjunction with the kick-off what will be the very first South-South Exchange Programme under the auspices of AAI with the support of the European Union and UNDP. She insisted that the gap in Africa to mobilize climate finance is on insufficient capacity to develop projects which can be improved by exchange of experience.



5) Introduction through Mr. Patrice LEFEU, Global Climate Finance Leader, Ernest & Young:

As representative of the Delivery Partner and Readiness implementation entity, Mr. LEFEU presented, also from the distance, the principles, issues, goals, phases, activities, timeline of Activities, and next steps of the Readiness Programme.



After presentation of all the participants, this kick-off meeting of the Pan-African Programme was followed by a 1,5-day workshop (3-4 October 2022) organized by CGIAR and two days (5-6 October 2022) South-South peer capacity Exchange Programme led by UNDP.

