

# UN Climate Action Summit: Africa Adaptation Initiative (AAI)

**Goal:** to enhance adaptation action in African continent with a focus on four key areas: (1) enhancing climate information services; (2) strengthening policies and institutions; (3) enhancing on the ground action; and (4) increasing access to and mobilising climate finance and investment.

## Context

In the last decade, African economies have been growing at a rate of 4.7%, but the challenge of climate change threatens further economic growth and impedes progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The devastating effects of climate change, which include severe droughts, floods, reduced agricultural yields, sea level rise and other climate related disasters are on the rise. By 2050, based on the current trends in global emissions, Africa's adaptation costs could reach USD 100 billion annually (UNEP, 2014).

In response, **African Heads of States** launched the **Africa Adaptation Initiative (AAI)** to ensure the Continent **urgently adapts to the adverse effects of climate change in the immediate, short, medium and longer terms**

AAI will collaborate with existing institutions to enhance adaptation action on the ground. AAI will also: (i) Raise **awareness** of climate adaptation; (ii) Facilitate **knowledge management, capacity building and capacity strengthening**; (iii) Support and facilitate **resource mobilization** for implementation; (iv) Promote **co-operation and partnerships** (at sub-regional and regional levels) for synergy, scale and maximize shared benefits ; (v) Track progress through **monitoring and evaluation** of action

## Structure and governance

The AAI is an African-led initiative which is strongly rooted in existing African institutions. The initiative will provide support to African countries to enhance adaptation action with the aim of being transparent, flexible, agile, and responsive to the needs of African countries.

**Political guidance-** AAI Champion HE Ali Bongo Ondimba and the Committee of African Head of States on Climate Change (CAHOSCC)

**Technical guidance-** Chaired by Africa Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN). African Group of Negotiators on Climate Change (AGN), African Union Commission (AUC), African Development Bank (AfDB), NEPAD's Planning Coordinating Agency, UNECA, African Risk Capacity (ARC), UNDP and UNEP.

**Secretariat-** Technical Support Unit (TSU)

## **Outcomes by 2025**

- **USD 1 Billion** is invested in African countries to ensure adequate climate information services (incl. early-warning systems, observational infrastructure) to support robust policy and decision-making on adaptation;
- **All African countries** have translated their National Adaptation Plans and their NDC Adaptation into investment plans, and fundable pipeline of projects;
- **Doubling of** adaptation finance accessed and mobilized by Africa countries for their urgent priorities
- **Implementation of at least one regional flagship programme** in each of the 5 regions in Africa, addressing the critical sectors (and drivers) of the African economy (agriculture, water, disaster reduction, cities and local communities, coastal protection, health and biodiversity and ecosystems).

## Roadmap for the Partnership

The UN Climate Action Summit sets the stage for the launch of the AAI enhanced 2020-2025 partnership, which includes, inter alia:

- Scaling up the initial 4 AAI Flagships (launched UNGA 2018) with 4 partners (AfDB, ARC, Lake Chad Commission, UNDP-SEI); and launching new collaboration (Adaptation of African Agriculture (AAA), LIFE-AR, Global Commission on Adaptation, GCF);
- Launching the Africa State of Adaptation Report at 2020 AU Climate Summit & GCA Climate Adaptation Action Summit;
- Hosting Africa Climate Finance Network & Forum Secretariat and support implementation of its initial 4-year Workplan;
- Launching at COP 26 Africa 1<sup>st</sup> continental and thematic climate bond

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