

CILSS strengthens the capacity of CILSS-ECOWAS countries on mainstreaming climate change into planning and national budget

Introduction

Climate change poses a significant threat to economic development and may reduce chances in addressing poverty reduction challenges. Therefore, its impacts must be systematically mainstreamed into the economic and social policies, development projects and international aid efforts. And yet, mainstreaming climate change into the development planning process still represents a challenge for developing countries.

It is in this sense that was born the Global Climate Change Alliance (GCCA) Program which provided targeted technical and financial support to developing countries to mainstream climate change in their development policies to promote the implementation of adaptation and mitigation priority actions. This program is implemented by CILSS in the CILSS-ECOWAS countries in partnership with the climate Facility of the program. Besides this initiative, there is the adaptation to climate change project in agriculture and water funded by the French Global Environment Facility (FGEF) whose objective is to contribute to the effective consideration of the impact of climate change on policies and/or agricultural and water programs at the subregional and national levels. Both initiatives promote, since 2013, the mainstreaming of climate change in planning and budgeting through national capacity-building workshops.

Objectives of training workshops

The main objectives of these training workshops are to:

- raise awareness on the benefits and challenges associated with mainstreaming climate change in planning and the budgetary process;
- gain knowledge of the tools and methodologies to support the mainstreaming process of climate change in planning and budgeting
- assess the amount of investment needs to address climate change

Assessment of training workshops (2013-2014)

Training workshops have been organized in the 17 CILSS and ECOWAS member countries in partnership with the Ministry of Environment through the climate change focal points, the national climate change committees, the CILSS national committees (CONACILSS). To date, 6 national workshops have already been organized for more than 230 managerial staff in Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Niger, Senegal and Chad. Mainstreaming climate change is a long and iterative process. In this respect, training sessions are followed by a roadmap and a support program to countries in order to ensure that this process is effective.



Target group

The target group consists of managerial staff from technical ministries (environment, agriculture, livestock, water, etc.) the ministries of budget, planning, members of Parliament, resource persons from the economic, social and environmental council, the civil society, Universities, agricultural research institutions, local authorities, etc.



Training modules

The actual training includes 6 modules

1 – The understanding of the links between climate change and development

- Understanding climate change and its causes from global to national level;
- The greenhouse effect;
- The major current and future climate trends at the national level;
- The biophysical and socioeconomic impacts;
- The potential impact of climate change on achieving the MDGs;
- The climate-resilient development and low-emission: (green jobs, ecovillages, green growth) and the co-benefits in terms of development.

Practical cases and exercises

- (I) Quiz on climate change;
- (II) Sharing of experiences on climate-related events and disasters, their impacts on the socioeconomic systems and the responses provided;
- (III) The analysis of the potential impact of climate change in achieving the Millennium Development Goals.

2 – Why and how to mainstream climate change into policies, strategies and programs

- Why mainstream climate change at the level of strategic and operational planning?
- How to mainstream climate change: entry points into the development planning cycle;
- Institutional requirements for effective mainstreaming.

Practical cases and exercises

- (I) Identify constraints and opportunities from an institutional, a technical and financial perspective related to mainstreaming climate change;
- (II) Role play of stakeholders (politicians, technicians, civil society).

3 – The awareness tools, the vulnerability analysis materials of the impact, climate change adaptation/mitigation and the establishment of partnerships

- Assessing and prioritizing climate risks;
- Analyzing the vulnerability of priority socioeconomic systems;
- Awareness tools:
 - at the «macro» level: analysis of the potential impact of climate change on the national economy (GDP), assess the losses and damages associated with climate change;
 - at the «meso» level: analysis of the key sectors and sub-sectors of the national economy;

- notes to decision-makers on climate change, national workshops and national awareness-raising days;
 - provide examples of good practices on adaptation and mitigation through demonstration pilot sites.
- Building partnerships with the champions of the cause (decision-makers, members of Parliament, especially the parliamentary member group on environment and climate change, and the economic, social and environmental council;
 - Environmental and strategic assessment.

Practical cases and exercises

- Assessing socioeconomic and climate vulnerability;
- Identify the risks/impacts related to climate and opportunities for adaptation for a given program/project by using the impact matrix approach/adaptation solutions

4 – Estimated costs, evaluation and selection of options and adaptation and/or mitigation measures

- Identify per agro-ecological zone the most approved adaptation and/or mitigation options;
- Assess and select the adaptation and mitigation measures;
- Analyzing the costs and benefits;
- Prioritizing by using the multi-criteria analysis: technical feasibility, social and cultural acceptability, the socioeconomic impacts, the consistency of adaptation/mitigation options with national policies;
- The up-scaling of selected adaption and/or mitigation techniques for a particular agro-ecological zone.

Practical cases and exercises

- Calculation of the return on investment (profit, investment);
- Use of the multi-criteria analysis matrix to prioritize adaptation and/or mitigation options ;
- Calculation of the up-scaling effects at the macroeconomic level: increase in production, number of additional people fed, decrease of the import bill, tons of carbon stored, etc.



5 – Mainstreaming climate change in the budgetary process

- Process and key stages in the formulation of the national budget;
- Identify the most suitable entry points to mainstream climate change in the national budgetary process: from the administrative phase to the parliamentary phase;
- Implications of climate change mainstreaming for government revenues and expenditures;
- Entry points for mainstreaming the «climate» aspects in a review of public expenditures;
- The various existing external funding sources to combat climate change (UNFCCC funds, bilateral and multilateral funds), the challenges of mobilizing these funds, funds used by countries, the public-private partnership;
- Monitoring climate-related expenditure (monitoring the implementation of actions in the field of climate change, reporting, and monitoring tool).

Practical cases and exercises

Drawing up the matrix of stakeholders who should be involved and indicating their role at each stage of the budgetary process

6 – Mainstreaming climate change in the monitoring-evaluation system.

- Key concepts of monitoring-evaluation: monitoring, evaluation, results chain, logical framework, etc.;
- How to manage the monitoring and evaluation of actions in the field of climate change?
- What should be monitored? And why? ;
- Mainstream indicators on climate change adaptation and/or mitigation in existing national monitoring systems;
- Indicators to monitor:
 - variability, climate change, impact and vulnerability indicators;
 - indicators on policy and institutional changes;
 - indicators on monitoring policy implementation;
 - indicators on monitoring the results of policies.
- Measurement of the performance and effects/impacts of adaptation/mitigation actions in the field of climate change.

Practical cases and exercises

- (I) Identify indicators on the monitoring and mainstreaming of climate change from a national and sectoral strategic document;
- (II) Drawing up the results chain of a project which mainstreams climate change (example of a priority NAPA project).

The team of CILSS trainers

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