



Concept Note

ClimSA Programme Advisory Committee (PAC), Programme Steering Committee (PSC) and Technical Expert Committee Meetings

Background

The African Union (AU) Intra-ACP Climate Services and Related Applications (ClimSA) programme implements the Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS) in Africa and aims to holistically address the issue of climate information. The programme is funded by the European Union (EU) through the 11th European Development Fund (11th EDF) with a focus on technical improvements, capacity enhancement, institution strengthening, awareness, and enhanced policy and decision-making at all levels. ClimSA is both a continuation and an expansion of the climate services developed and delivered under the EU-funded Monitoring for Environment and Security in Africa (MESA) project. In addition to expanding the scope and improving the quality of climate services for disaster risk reduction (DRR) developed under MESA, the programme also develops and delivers climate services in new priority sectors such as agriculture and food security, energy, forestry, health, and water.

Of the €52M total funding provided, the African Union Commission signed a Contribution Grant Agreement of €22M with the European Union for the management of relevant continental regional activities, in particular under all five outputs:

- a) Interaction between the users, researchers and climate services providers in Africa through User Interface Platforms is ensured and structured;
- b) Provision of climate services at regional and national levels is guaranteed;
- c) Access to climate information is improved;
- d) Capacity to generate and apply climate information and products is enhanced; and
- e) Climate Services are mainstreamed into policy processes at regional and national levels.

Additionally, following AU Rules and Procedures, the AUC is responsible for giving a grant to ACMAD for strengthening its institutional and technical capacities, improving its capacity to procure and analyze climate-related data, and to provide climate services to direct beneficiaries. The AUC is further responsible for coordinating the activities of the ClimSA project in all African sub-regions. The AUC also has the responsibility for budget implementation tasks in the ECCAS region.

The Committees

In order to ensure effectiveness in implementation, the Contribution Agreement which the AUC signed with the EU foresees establishment of:

- the AU Grant Programme Steering whose members are the AUC, ACMAD Board, and the ECCAS Commission;
- the ClimSA Programme Advisory Committee (PAC) with membership comprising of OACPS, Regional Economic Communities and Regional Organisations (and their respective Regional Climate Centres); and
- The Technical Expert Committee where, besides other institutions, RCCs are the core members.

The EU Delegation to the AU, OACPS, Technical Implementing Partners (JRC, EUMETSAT, and WMO), relevant UN Agencies, also participate in all the meetings.

The AU ClimSA Programme Steering Committee (PSC) is solely concerned with the activities of the AUC, ACMAD and CAPC-AC. It oversees implementation and provides direction on the implementation of the grant, follow-up implementation, and ensure policy coordination. The Programme Advisory Committee (PAC) oversees implementation of all African actions and provides advice for effective and efficient implementation. The PAC also ensures policy coordination among African regions in order to facilitate and promote consistency, synergy, cooperation, cross-fertilization, as well as Africa's effective contribution to the African and global climate action and attainment of SDGs. On the other hand, the Technical Expert Committee (TEC) provides technical and scientific guidance to the implementation of the programme, PAC and RECs, etc. The TEC is responsible for ensuring coordinated technical development and delivery of climate services on the continent. Its main members are the RCCs, and one representative from each of the five UIPs priority sectors, representatives from other socio-economic sectors (humanitarian affairs, Africa Risk Capacity, the academia, technical and research institutions).

Technical Implementing Partners (JRC, EUMETSAT, WMO) support the TEC in execution of its responsibilities.

Objectives of the Meetings

The overall objective of the meetings is to bring the ClimSA project to the awareness of the members and operationalize the three-above mentioned committees. Specifically, the meetings are intended to:

- Consider and adopt the Rules of Procedure and Terms of Reference for the three committees;
- Consider various documents of the programme including work plans;
- Receive reports and updates from the AUC, RCCs and implementing partners on the implementation of the project;
- Provide guidance and advice on specific matters relating to programme implementation;

Expected Outcomes

- Operationalization of the Committee
- Guidance on specific issues on project implementation
- Raised awareness of the ClimSA project

Participants

Regional Economic Communities and Regional Organisations
The African Union Commission
The EU Delegation to the AU
Regional Climate Centres
OACPS Secretariat
Implementing Partners (JRC, EUMETSAT, WMO, OACPS TAT)
Relevant UN Agencies
Africa Risk capacity, African Development Bank, UNECA/ACPC

Draft Agenda

Attached