

Building Nigeria's Response to Climate Change

BACKGROUND



BNRCC


MARBK
Resource Consultants Ltd.

WE STAND FOR PEOPLE
CUSO
LA FORCE DES GENS


NEST

Canada

Acronyms

ACCA	Advancing Capacity to Support Climate Change Adaptation
BNRCC	Building Nigeria's Response to Climate Change
C-NCCCCDP	Canada-Nigeria Climate Change Capacity Development Project
CBO	Community-Based Organizations
CDM	Clean Development Mechanism
CEA	Canadian Executing Agency
CIDA	Canadian International Development Agency
COP	Conference of Party
DPR	Department of Petroleum Resources
EOI	Expression of Interest
FBO	Faith-Based Organizations
FMEEnv	Federal Ministry of Environment (formerly FMEHUD)
FMEHUD	Fed. Ministry of Environment, Housing & Urban Development (now FMEEnv)
FNC	First National Communication
GCSI	Global Change Strategies International
GHG	Greenhouse Gasses
IDR	In-depth Research
IDRC	International Development Research Centre
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
NAPA	National Adaptation Plan of Action
NEMA	National Emergency Management Agency
NEST	Nigeria Environmental Study/Action Team
NGO	Non-Governmental Organizations
NIMET	Nigerian Meteorological Agency
NNPC	Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation
NPC	National Population Commission
PIP	Project Implementation Plan
PMT	Project Management Team
PSC	Project Steering Committee
SNC	Second National Communication
SCCU	Special Climate Change Unit
UNCED	United Nations Conference on Environment & Development
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNGA	United Nations General Assembly
UNITAR	United Nations Institute for Training and Research
WG	Working Group

“We urgently need to take increased action, given climate change predictions and the corresponding global adaptation needs.”
Rachmat Witoclar

What is the BNRCC Project?



“Building Nigeria’s Response to Climate Change” is a multi-year project which aims to increase Nigeria’s capacity to adapt to the current and anticipated effects of Climate Change—thereby reducing the negative impacts of Climate Change on the livelihoods of vulnerable men and women.

It will do so by increasing the capacity of the Nigerian government to meet Nigeria’s international Climate Change commitments under the UNFCCC, and by increasing government and civil society stakeholders’ capacity to take informed, equitable, sustainable and gender-sensitive action on Climate Change adaptation.

In consultation and collaboration with Nigerian stakeholders from all regions and sectors, the project team will: research Nigeria’s vulnerability to Climate Change impacts, identify possible

adaptation actions, pilot these actions in Nigeria’s most vulnerable communities, develop a comprehensive, sustainable and gender-sensitive National Strategy for Climate Change Adaptation in Nigeria, work with government to integrate these adaptive actions into its policy framework, and initiate outreach activities to ignite further Climate Change action and adaptation in Nigeria.

BNRCC is made possible by the financial support of the Government of Canada through the Canadian International Development Agency.

“Global warming and extreme weather conditions may have calamitous consequences for the human rights of millions of people.”
Kyung-wha Kang, UN Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights.

Background

The development of the BNRCC project sprung from the achievements of an earlier initiative called the Canada-Nigeria Climate Change Capacity Development Project (C-NCCCCDP), implemented with funding from the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) between 2001 and 2004, and implemented by the Nigeria Environmental Study/Action Team (NEST). The C-NCCCCDP project:

- raised awareness of Climate Change issues and mobilized a network of people willing, capable and prepared to work at addressing them.
- It also outlined some possible follow-up project concepts that were made available to donors and government agencies in Nigeria, including key recommendations that framed the BNRCC Project.
- facilitated the first multi-sector assessment of Climate Change impacts and adaptation in Nigeria which resulted in five assessment reports being prepared. These assessments provided the framework for the BNRCC project. They were, in essence, the key components of a strategic environmental assessment; they also noted important ‘lessons learned’ and specific recommendations, which have been integrated into the BNRCC Project.
- developed a Climate Change Policy Brief.

These Reports and documents are available on the NEST website at: www.nestinteractive.org.

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Outreach

The success of the BNRCC project hinges on the project team's ability to inform, inspire, engage and collaborate with interested and affected parties across the country. In the end, Nigeria's Climate Change Strategy must truly belong to the people of Nigeria.

The BNRCC project, through its implementation and outputs, reaches out to the ministries and legislatures at federal and state levels, including the Ministries of Environment, Agriculture and Water Resources; Women Affairs and Social Development; Health; Education; Information; Finance; Justice; the

National Planning Commission; and the Energy Commission.

BNRCC has also engaged parastatals and agencies such as the Nigerian Meteorological Agency (NIMET), and others such as the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA); State Environmental Protection Agencies; and the Department of Petroleum Resources (DPR).

Other important stakeholders involved in Building Nigeria's Response to Climate Change are Media outlets/practitioners, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), Faith-Based

Organizations (FBOs), Community-Based Organizations (CBOs), Professional and Scientific Associations, Universities, Research Institutions, and local community leaders.

BNRCC's outreach work has consisted of project website updates, media relations, stakeholder consultations, presentations and workshops/ seminars. A new Strategic Adaptation Outreach Action Plan for the BNRCC project is in development.

Beneficiaries

The long-term beneficiaries of BNRCC are the people in communities across Nigeria—particularly those who are vulnerable to, and affected by, the impacts of Climate Change. BNRCC's research, community-level pilot projects, outreach/education efforts, policy work and adaptation strategies are meant to increase these communities' capacity to adapt to Climate Change—thereby contributing to the nation's poverty alleviation efforts, and to improved livelihood and health, access to natural resources, equality and good governance.

The project will also provide for the direct participation of numerous stakeholders (see above). The focus will be on Climate Change capacity-building in key sectors where Climate Change adaptation action will have the greatest impact.

Our work to engage government will generate benefits to Nigeria at the level of government policy and programmes. The project will also assist the government of Nigeria to meet its obligations under the UNFCCC, such as facilitating the completion and release of Nigeria's Second National Communication, and

building Nigeria's response to climate change.

For Canada, the project allows for the fulfillment of its obligations as an Annex 'A' country under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. Canada's Climate Change scientists, policy experts and funders will also gain significant exposure to the context of a priority country in Africa—offering the potential for transferability to other countries in the Bight of Benin and elsewhere.

Other Nigerian organizations tackling the Climate Change issue will benefit from this project's entire body of work.

Project Governance & Management



The BNRCC project, funded by CIDA, is being governed by a Project Steering Committee (PSC) which provides overall guidance and macro-level decision-making. The Committee includes twelve voting mem-

bers, selected to provide a balance between government and civil society representatives.

Since the PSC is performing oversight functions to ensure that decisions and plans are well executed, only persons with expertise, interest in and commitment to the Climate Change Adaptation project were selected as members. The PSC also serves as an important formal interface between the BNRCC project and the government of Nigeria.

The Project is being managed by a Project Management Team (PMT) which comprises a consortium of CUSO and Marbek Resource Consultants, both of Ottawa, Canada, and is being implemented in partnership with the Nigeria Environmental Study/Action Team (NEST) in Nigeria.

www.cuso.org

www.marbek.ca

www.nestinteractive.org

“Climate Change is a global issue, but the world’s least developed and other poor countries are the most vulnerable to the possible effects of climate change.”

Mr. Michel Jarraud

PSC Representation

CIDA (1)	Kelly Thomson, Representative from Abuja headquarters
Marbek/CUSO (2)	Co-Directors George Matheson, Marbek / Susan Learoyd, CUSO, Canada
NEST (2)	David Okali, Nigerian Co-Director (CHAIR) / Usman Dukku, NEST Board Member
Fed. Gov. of Nigeria (4)	Peter Tarfa, Federal Ministry of Environment, Abuja E. E. Archibong, Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development, Abuja Rahila Thomas, National Planning Commission, Abuja Julie Ukeje, Nigerian Meteorological Agency (NIMET), Abuja
Civil Society (3)	Joanna Maduka, FoE, Lagos 1 NGO Representative (vacant) / 1 Private Sector Representative (vacant)

Observers

John van Mossel	Project Manager / Marbek, Canada
Dr. Emma C. Nzegbule	Project Coordinator / NEST, Ibadan
Ako Amadi	CIDA, Abuja
Prof. Terry Olowu	Chairperson, Advisory Group (Pilot Project)
Dr. A. Nnaji	Chairperson, Advisory Group (Research)
Vacant	Chairperson, Advisory Group (Outreach)
Vacant	Chairperson, Advisory Group (Policy)

BNRCC Activities to Date



BNRCC officially started in February 2007 with extended consultations with the project's implementing partners and stakeholders. Among the inception activities undertaken was the formation of four key Working Groups (WGs), each led by a chairperson who undertook to draft implementation options for the following: Adaptation Research, Community-Based Pilot Projects, Adaptation Policy and Outreach/Networking. The four working group reports were reviewed in a mini-workshop in September 2007. A consultant was also hired to develop a Gender Equality Strategy Report for the project.

On October 10th 2007, a National Stakeholders Workshop was convened in Abuja to discuss and refine the expected results of the project, develop a workable project plan or design, and importantly, to engage partners and build ownership for the project. The National Stakeholders Workshop led to the development of a Project Implementation Plan (PIP). Also within the period, a BNRCC Project Steering Committee was established; it gave official approval to the PIP at its inaugural meeting in Abuja on November 27, 2007. A First Annual Work Plan (November 2007–March 2008) of BNRCC was also drafted and endorsed by the PSC. The activities implemented from the First Annual Work Plan include:

Improving the capacity of the local implementing partner:

This involved recruiting more staff and consultants to head BNRCC activity desks and improving NEST's infrastructure.

Constituting the advisory groups for Research and Pilot component:

The early technical phase of BRCC started with Research and Pilot Project components. Advisory Groups were constituted to assist in the decision-making and delivery of the project activities in these two areas.

Early engagement of the key groups/persons in the Legislature and Ministries:

Meetings were arranged and held with federal legislators and the Ministry of Environment, Housing and Urban Development (particularly the Special Climate Change Unit) to develop a platform for the collaboration and the integration of climate change adaptation into national policies. These meetings were held in January and February 2008.

Developing the project website:

A key facility for outreach and communications of BNRCC is the project website which was developed in February 2008. The website provides information about the project, Climate Change in Nigeria, links to agencies involved in Climate Change activities, and more. Visit the website today at www.nigeriaclimatechange.org.

Engaging project partners for Research and Pilot project components:

Expressions of Interest (EOI) have been advertised and partners are being engaged for the Research and Pilot Projects components. These will design and implement Climate Change adaptation projects.

Official Launch:

The BNRCC Project was officially launched by the Honourable Minister, Federal Ministry of Environment, Housing and Urban Development, on May 27th, 2008 at Abuja's Rockview Hotel. The launch event provided an opportunity to extend the reach and ownership, as well as to share information about the project. The Federal Government of Nigeria used the occasion to state its commitment to realizing the project goals and to address the Climate Change problem. The occasion was also an opportunity to officially present the project's website to the public.

Engaging Media

The Media Forum

A media forum was held on May 27th, 2007 at the Abuja’s Top View Hotel. BNRCC believes there is a need for more effective public access to information about Climate Change vulnerability, impacts and adaptation responses. Strategic, effective, and high-quality information dissemination and networking will enable people to respond proactively to Climate Change and its effects. By reaching out to media outlets and practitioners through a forum, BNRCC could share knowledge about Climate Change and adaptation, and nurture ongoing mutually beneficial collaboration. An informed and engaged media can disseminate and share vital knowledge with the public, as well as advocate for policy change .

Among the forum’s key outputs was the formation of a network of media practitioners interested in climate change matters—the Climate Change Media Network of Nigeria (CCMNN). The Secretariat of the Network is currently at the Head Office of the African Radio Drama Association (ARDA), (c/o Ms Data Phido) Lagos. Members of the media are strongly encouraged to join!

"Humanity is incredibly innovative. We have the capacity to solve the problem of climate change; the only issue is whether we as individuals, governments and businesses have the courage to act together to do what need to be done. The stakes could not be higher."

James Murdoch, Chief Executive, BSKyB, September 2006

Lake Chad Basin Commission Warns Member Countries of Lake’s Extinction

The Lake Chad Basin Commission (LCBC) has warned member states of the looming ecological and socio-economic disasters in the Lake Chad Basin, which if the members do not take urgent measures may culminate the extinction of the lake.

The Executive Secretary of the Commission, Mr. Muhammad Sani Adamu, an engineer made the declarations recently in N'djamena, the capital of Chad Republic while addressing member countries of the commission to mark its forty fourth-year anniversary.

He said that the saving of the Lake from drying up and eventual extinction has become inevitable in preventing the Chad Basin Area from being a disaster region in the central part of Africa.

According to the Executive Secretary, the Lake Chad has drastically

shrunk along its water from 30, 000 square kilometer in 1960 to the present level of only 2, 500 square kilometers.

Besides, he added that many of the wetlands in the Basin have either shrunk like the Lake or completely dried up, giving way to the rapid advancement of the desert into the largest inland lake in Africa.

He told the six-member countries of Chad, Niger, Nigeria, Cameroon, Central African Republic and Libya “the reduction in water volumes of the Lake has largely affected the production of agricultural crops, fishing and breeding of livestock.

In saving the Lake from drying up and eventual extinction, Sani Adamu urged all the six- member countries of LCBC to urgently take “action” in other to save the lake and its wetlands.

He warned that “the disappearance or extinction of the lake will be fatal” not only to the 25million people living in the region, but the entire continent of Africa.

Adamu suggested that the stakeholders of the Lake Chad Basin are to come together in proffering concrete solutions to the drying lake and its wetlands.

The Chadian Minister of Environment, Madam Khadidja Abdulkadir who launched the commission's forty fourth years anniversary said that “plans of action” be urgently put in place by the six-member countries in saving the Lake from extinction. Such plans, she said include the transferring of the water of River Ubangui in DR. Congo in to Lake Chad.





Flooding is becoming more frequent in Nigeria.

Storm Wreaks Havoc in Enugu, 300 Families Homeless

No fewer than 300 families have been rendered homeless in Ameke Ngwo and Ngwo Uno communities in Udi local Council of Enugu state following the destruction of their houses and economic trees worth millions of naira by a wind storm which wrecked havoc in the area two days ago.

Worst hit were residents of Ibite and Umuezeani villages in Ameke as well as Akam in Ngwo Uno where many roofs were blown off in the disaster that has forced most residents to seek refuge in neighboring villages and 9th mile corner.

When *The Guardian* visited the affected communities yesterday, many house hold items and properties littered the compounds, while residents wore mournful faces, an indication that something has been extracted from them.

One of the residents, who identified himself as John Okorie, said the storm which preceded a down pour occurred at about 8pm when most residents had returned home after the day's business. "It was like a tornado as houses were being pulled down and rooftops blown off. Several economic trees were also pulled down. In fact, the entire community was devastated," he said.

He stated that though no human life was lost, the devastation would not be forgotten in the near future. He disclosed that most residents lost their entire belongings.

Also speaking on the disaster, the traditional ruler of Ameke Ngwo, Igwe Jerome Okolo said the storm came with a very terrible force and blew off houses, uprooted palm trees, *iroko* trees and other economic trees, with some of them falling on houses and reducing them

to rubble. He said such a disaster had never been witnessed in the area for a long time. He called for urgent assistance to the victims.

Chairman of Udi local council Dr. Walter Oji, who inspected the area yesterday, lamented the plight of the residents. He called for urgent Federal Government aid.

It was learnt yesterday that the officials of the Enugu State Ministry of Environment and State Emergency Management Agency had already moved into the area to ascertain the extent of the disaster and the victims' immediate needs.

The Guardian Saturday, May 31, 2008 Vol. 25, No. 10, 748

"It has been noted that climate change which emanates from emissions of greenhouse gasses (GHGs) by man remains one of the biggest global environmental problems. From agriculture, to the ecosystem and social structures, climate change affects humanity."

Daily Champion, Tuesday, June 5, 2008, p35

"Whatever happens over the next few years, our children and grandchildren are going to live in a world in which the climate is very different from the one we grew up with. A climactic time lag means that we are already locked into a further half-century of global warming. The concern is that if we keep on increasing carbon emissions then climate change will become irreversible and the long-term consequences catastrophic."

Ken Livingstone, Mayor of London, in the Guardian, April 19, 2006

What is Climate Change?

A region's climate is the collective expression of the location's many weather elements: temperature, rainfall, dew, humidity, wind, sunshine, mist, haze and clouds. The term Climate Change is used to describe a marked change in the long-term "average" of a region's weather conditions. When we speak of Climate Change on a global scale, we are referring to changes in the climate of the Earth as a whole.

A natural system known as the



Windstorms are already rendering many Nigerians homeless.

"greenhouse effect" regulates the temperature on Earth. Human activities have the potential to disrupt the balance of this system. Heat-trapping

greenhouse gasses (GHGs) have been increasing in our atmosphere due to the burning of fossil fuels such as coal and oil, deforestation, and other human activities. This has the potential to warm the planet at a rate that has never been experienced in human history. An international scientific consensus has emerged that our world is getting warmer. Such Climate Change could have far-reaching and/or unpredictable environmental, social and economic consequences.

"Global warming and extreme weather conditions may have calamitous consequences for the human rights of millions of people."

Kyung-wha Kang, UN

Deputy High

Commissioner for

Human Rights.

Climate Change Impacts

Climate Change is much more than a warming trend. Most experts agree that average global temperatures could rise by 1 to 3.5 degrees Celsius over the next century. Some of the current and projected climate changes include the following: retreating Alpine glaciers, a rise in sea levels, a shifting of global

climatic zones; an increased incidence and severity of extreme weather; prolonged heat waves; changes in precipitation levels leading to increased drought, desertification and flooding.

As such, Climate Change can create a significant loss of food security, natural disasters, a

vanishing of coastlines, human displacement, natural resource depletion, a lack of clean and accessible water, animal migration, pest management issues, diseases and other health issues; a loss of cultural practices and traditional ways of life; economic downturns, energy crises, and more...

Who is Most Vulnerable?

While Climate Change is a global problem, studies have shown that some countries have a greater degree of vulnerability to the impact of Climate Change than others. (IPCC Third and Fourth Assessment Reports).

Countries within the tropics are likely to experience more inci-

dences of tropical storms caused by Climate Change. Also, countries with significant lengths of coastline will be more threatened by sea-level rises induced by Climate Change.

Countries with poorly developed infrastructure, insufficient public health systems, and/or

low levels of emergency preparedness will experience more negative impacts of Climate Change.

Countries whose economies and livelihood have a greater sensitivity to climate-related events such as rainfall, wind (etc.) will be more affected.



Drought, and loss of vegetation will cause fuel wood scarcity.

Nigeria and Climate Change

It has been determined that global Climate Change will have a strong impact on Nigeria—particularly in the areas of agriculture, land use, energy, biodiversity, health and water resources.

Nigeria, and all the countries of Sub-Saharan Africa, are highly vulnerable to the impacts of Climate Change, according to the Third and Fourth Assessment Reports of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. It was noted that Nigeria specifically ought to be concerned by Climate Change because:

- of the country's high vulnerability due to its long (800km) coastline that is prone to sea-level rise and the risk of fierce storms

- almost 2/3 of Nigeria's land cover is prone to drought and desertification

- its water resources are under threat which will affect energy sources (Kainji and Shiroro)

- rain-fed agriculture and fishing activities from which 2/3 of the Nigerian population depend primarily on for food are under serious threat

- Nigeria has a very high population pressures—140 million people surviving on the physical environment through various activities within an area of 923,000 square kilometers

- Nigeria lacks the financial capacity and technological know-how to combat the postulated negative impacts of Climate Change

- Nigeria does not yet have a fully established institutional and legal framework, nor systematic approaches and policies targeted at combating, mitigating and adapting to the impacts of Climate Change.

Given the above factors, it is clear that Nigeria's long-term development priority of poverty reduction, the Millennium Development Goals and President Umar Musa Yar'adua's Seven Point Agenda will be severely constrained if insufficient attention is paid to the current and future impacts of Climate Change on the nation.

"Ultimately climate change may affect the very right to life of various individuals."

*Kyung-wha Kang,
UN Deputy High
Commissioner for
Human Rights*

Increased Vulnerability

Nigeria has no favorable disposition on any of the three parameters of increased vulnerability. (NEST 2004)

A sea-level rise of just 0.2m as a result of Climate Change could flood over 3,400 km² of the country's coast land. One prediction is that "Nigeria will lose close to \$9 billion as a result of such a disaster while at least 80% of the inhabitants of the Niger Delta will be displaced due to large areas being below

sea level in the oil-rich region" (Guardian September 17 2001, p. 80).

More than two-thirds of Nigeria is prone to desertification. Climate Change is predicted to worsen the incidence of drought and desertification and millions of people will be turned into refugees because of the disaster. States, such as Borno, Sokoto, Jigawa, Zamfara, Kebbi, Yobe, Kaduna, Kano, Bauchi, Adamawa, Bauchi, Niger and others are at risk.

Over 80% of Nigeria's population cites agriculture and fishing as their primary occupation. Our agriculture is rain fed. Our food production system will be adversely affected by the variability in timing and amount of rainfall, frequent outbreaks of crop pests and diseases and heat stress. Food shortages will increase and many farmers could lose their sources of livelihood due to Climate Change.

Global Action on Climate Change



“Global warming is global warning!”

Dr Victor Fodeke, Head, Special Climate Change Unit, Federal Ministry of Environment, Housing and Urban Development, Abuja, April 2008

Global action to address Climate Change is coordinated by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The first World Climate Conference took place in 1979, however it was not until September 1988 that the United Nations gave serious attention to climate change as an issue, in response to growing public environmental awareness and concern for the consequences of global warming.

The UN General Assembly (UNGA), at its 43rd session in 1988, adopted Resolution 43/53, titled ‘*Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind*’. The resolution noted with concern the emerging, overwhelming scientific evidence that global warming was a threat to established socio-economic systems.

A further UNGA resolution in 1990 led to the establishment of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC) which, over a period of 18 months, negotiated and drafted the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) that was tabled for signature at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) in Rio, Brazil, in June of 1992 (The ‘Rio’ or ‘Earth’ Summit).

The Convention entered into force on March 21, 1994 and became an international agreement for all Parties that ratified it.

Nigeria ratified the Convention in August of 1994. Since then, a Conference of Parties (COP) takes place annually to address specific Climate Change issues. The first convention took place in Berlin Germany in 1995.

In December of 2007, stakeholders from all over the world gathered in Bali for the thirteenth COP meeting. Though many perceived that the result was not satisfactory, progress was made in two areas.

Firstly, an agreement was reached regarding the operational details of the Adaptation Fund. An independent Adaptation Fund Board, whose membership is to be selected by the COP, was established to operationalize its financial mechanism.

Prior to this agreement, the Adaptation Fund was managed by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), and largely perceived to be difficult to access. The new administrative mechanism of the Adaptation Fund is a welcome relief to the developing countries, as they no longer need to go through the so-called “Implementing Agencies” such as the World

Bank or UNEP, but can approach the Board directly to access the Fund to leverage their adaptation activities.

Secondly, COP 13 developed a Road Map that will lead to a new global Climate Change negotiation and treaty beyond the first stage of commitments under the Kyoto protocol which expires in year 2012. The purpose of this Road Map is to facilitate long-term cooperative action addressing climate change. This plan would set an agenda for negotiations over a period of two years with the broad objective of promoting national and international greenhouse gas mitigation programs in both developed and developing country parties.

Setting negotiation terms for both developed and developing countries continues to be a challenge. The complexity of the Climate Change issue, the diversity of nations, and an intensely political negotiating environment often results in misunderstandings, North-South disagreements and political intrigue.

Consensus was reached for the developed world’s track of negotiation, however there remain issues of contention with respect to that of developing countries. These include whether “measurable, reportable and verifiable developing country mitigation commitment and action” contained in their own Article will be supported or not by “technology, financing and capacity-building by developed countries” (Muller, 2008).

“Will we watch as catastrophic disruption to Earth’s environment and her people occurs on an unimaginable scale? Or will we change course and work together to mitigate the effects of global warming?”
Wangari Maathai, Kenyan Nobel Laureate

COP MEETING HOSTS

Berlin, Germany	1995
Geneva, Switzerland	1996
Kyoto, Japan	1997
Buenos Aires, Argentina	1998
Bonn, Germany	1999
The Hague, Netherlands	2000
Marrakech, Morocco	2001
New Delhi, India	2002
Milan, Italy	2003
Buenos Aires, Argentina	2004
Montreal, Canada	2005
Nairobi, Kenya	2006
Bali, Indonesia	2007

Nigeria: Commitments & Action



When the phenomenon of Climate Change caught the World's attention, Nigeria was one of the 154 countries that initialed the Convention in Rio in 1992, and it became a party as soon as the Convention came into force. Nigeria was party to the ratified Convention on the 29th of August, 1994 and has ratified the Kyoto Protocol. By 27th November, 1994, Nigeria became committed when the Convention entered into full force.

As a signatory to UNFCCC under the Non-Annex I parties, Nigeria's obligation includes the following:

- To produce four key National Communications. The 1st and only National Communication was produced by Nigeria in November 2003.
- To produce four in-depth review summaries. None have been produced.
- To produce a demonstrable progress report (yet to be produced)
- To produce the National Adaptation Programme of Action (yet to be produced)
- To produce a Global Climate Observing System (GCOS) Report (yet to be produced)

As a party to the Convention, Nigeria must meet the obligations and commitments to the Convention, which is aimed primarily at controlling Climate Change by reducing to the absolute minimum the concentration of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. Over and above this, the core challenge at the local level is to develop the framework and capacity: (i) to assess the vulnerability of sectors and sections to different scenarios of climate change impact, (ii) to develop, assess and implement mitigation and adaptation options, and (iii) to strengthen the negotiating ability in climate change transactions.

Nigeria's major achievement in responding to the Convention and the Protocol is the production of the First National Communication (FNC) in November, 2003. Though the second National Communication has not been produced, the process is definitely underway. A stakeholders' initiation workshop on the Second National Communication (SNC) took place in December 2006. National experts to undertake works in the thematic areas have been identified, trained and classified into groups each with a lead Consultant. Nigeria is signing an agreement with Consultants who will go into the field to obtain data in this wise. Nigeria is also preparing for a meeting with the stakeholders on Climate Change. The SCCU may be contacted through: The Head, Special Climate Change Unit, 9th Floor Federal Secretariat Complex, Abuja.

"Given that climate change will occur irrespective of whatever the urgent global actions taken, Nigeria needs as a nation to put in place a robust portfolio or mix of strategies that includes mitigation and adaptation if we are not to slow down the pace of progress towards sustainable development."

'Nigeria: The Challenge of changing global climate.' The Guardian, Monday, December 24, 2007, Page 40

Nigerian Meteorological Agency

An important body working for the realization of Nigeria's obligation is the new **Nigerian Meteorological Agency (NIMET)**. NIMET came into existence in June 17, 2003 by an Act of parliament. Before its enactment, the agency had operated as a department in the Federal Ministry of Aviation and rendered meteorological services principally in the areas of Aviation, Water Resources, Marine, Education, Healthcare, Agriculture and Construction Industries. Whereas the level and quality of meteorological services then were determined largely by funds and other sources made available to it by the government, the services themselves were rendered free to the public.

The Nigerian Meteorological Agency is charged with the responsibility of meeting the weather and climate information requirements of the nation. They:

- Advise the Federal Government on all aspects of meteorology.
- Project, prepare and interpret Government policy in the field of meteorology.
- Issue weather forecasts for the safe operation of aircraft, ocean-going vessels, land transportation, and oil rigs.
- Promote the services of meteorological agency in agricultural, drought and desertification activities.

- Provide meteorological services in operational hydrology and water resources activities.
- Provide weather services in marine, environmental pollution and bio-meteorology for climatic and human health activities.
- Offer advice to the Federal and State Governments on seismological activities.
- Ensure uniform standards of observation of all meteorological records in the National Meteorological Archive.

Nigerian Meteorological Agency Corporate Headquarters

Plot 507, Pope John Paul II Street, Off Gana Street, Maitama District, P.M.B. 615, Garki, Abuja Nigeria.
Tel: +23494130709-11

NIMET Operational Headquarters

Oshodi Complex, Cappa Oshodi, Lagos. Tel: +23414526904

NIMET has zonal offices located in Airports at Kano, Kaduna, Ibadan, Port Harcourt, Enugu, and Maiduguri.

Special Climate Change Unit

Nigeria has created a **Special Climate Change Unit (SCCU)** within the Federal Ministry of Environment with the Secretariat in Abuja, Nigeria. The Unit is created to implement the Convention and the Protocol activities including the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM).

The SCCU team is headed by Dr. Victor Fodeke, and has S. A. Adejuwon and Peter Tarfa as the Assistant Head and Chief Environmental Scientist respectively.

The Unit also guided the constitution of the Inter-ministerial Committee on Climate Change with representation from the following ministries; Finance, Agriculture, Water Resources, Energy Commission, Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC), Foreign Affairs, Nigerian Meteorological Agency (NIMET), industry, NGOs (Nigerian Environmental Study/Action Team), and Academia (Centre for Climate Change and Fresh Water Resources; Federal University of Technology Minna, Centre for Energy, Research and Development; Obafemi Awolowo University Ile-Ife, Abubakar Tafawa Balewa University, Bauchi).



The Adaptation Response



Trees reduce wind speed and the concentration of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere.

Adaptation involves the process of adjusting (CN-CCCDP report). According to the IPCC, adaptation means adjustment in natural and human systems as a response to anticipated or actual changes in climatic conditions. Adaptation measures always seek to reduce the risks and impacts of Climate Change, to moderate the negative effects, and to exploit beneficial opportunity.

Adaptation is a proactive process because it envisages possible future changes in the climate, unlike coping measures which are reactionary. Coping measures often originate spontaneously in response to extreme climatic variability (anonymous, 2007 ENDS) and have been noted to be inadequate in terms of capacity to deal with expected future climate

changes. Adaptation measures, on the other hand, are consciously designed and implemented taking into cognizance anticipated scenarios of the climatic systems.

In order to be effective, adaptation measures are formulated with genuine information on existing and future climate systems derived from the community level.

Why Adaptation?

From its inception, the international climate effort has focused primarily on mitigation—reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions to prevent dangerous Climate Change. While ambitious mitigation activities are critical to tempering the progression of Climate Change, science shows that the volume of heat-trapping gasses already emitted into the atmosphere has sufficient potential to elicit Climate Change for decades to come. In other words, Climate Change and its many impacts will be with us for some time. There is no “quick fix” solution.

While mitigation efforts are vital and on-going, the next stage of the international effort must also deal squarely with adaptation—coping with those impacts that cannot be avoided. This is especially important in countries deemed particularly vulnerable to the grave impacts of Climate Change—like Nigeria.

In broad terms, a society’s vulnerability to natural or to human-induced Climate Change reflects its degree of exposure...and its capacity to adapt.

Anticipating and adapting to Climate Change impacts in order to minimize their human and environmental toll is a significant challenge for Nigeria. Meeting it requires action at multiple levels, from the local to the international, within both public and private spheres.



Charcoal will become scarce due to Climate Change.

Possible Adaptation Measures

A range of actions have been put forward by the FNC (2003) and CN-CCCDP reports (2004) as likely adaptation actions to be adopted in response to the current and anticipated Climate Change impacts on the various sectors of Nigeria's economy. One of the goals of the Building Nigeria's Response to Climate Change project (BNRCC) is to ascertain the feasibility and effectiveness of some the suggested adaptation actions in various regions and sectors through its Research and Community-Based Pilot Projects. The suggested adaptation actions include:

At Issue: Saltwater Intrusion

Constructing dykes, barrages, storm surge barriers and storm diversion channels; Resettling affected people; Realignment of transportation routes and nodes; Shifting to new or different livelihoods; Adoption of new building and other construction technologies

At Issue: Drought & Desertification

Rehabilitation overgrazed lands and irrigated agricultural land; Minimization and management of biomass burning especially in the Sudan-Sahel region; Reducing forest and woodland destruction; Restoration of degraded forests and woodlands; Resettlement.

At Issue: Water Resources

Promoting water recycling and re-use; Development of groundwater supplies; Improving efficiency of sources of water already developed; Protection of watersheds and reservoir sites through establishment of intensive vegetation cover to minimize evaporation; Improving on rain-harvesting techniques and construction of rain catchments back-up tanks; Changing location or height of dams and reservoirs; using closed conduits instead of open channels; using artificial recharge to reduce evaporation; raising dam height; adding more turbines; removing sediment from reservoirs for more storage; Increasing water supply capacity through construction of new structures); Monitoring ground-water resources;

At Issue: Health

Improved public sanitation and immunization coverage; Control of disease vector population; Strengthening the health care delivery system; Improving public awareness on health issues;

At Issue: Coastal Devices

Creating protective devices such as dykes, levees, flood walls, sea walls, revetments, tidal barriers, salt-water intrusion barriers; wetland restoration and creation and afforestation; Modification of land use; changes in planting dates, changes in cultivars, application of irrigation, and changes in crop; Replacing lost resources, developing of alternative habitat areas; afforestation; preventing salinity increases; avoiding development in areas prone to flooding; allowing for development subject to the requirement that it will eventually be removed (presumed mobility); doing nothing about the problems and eventually requiring the developed areas to be abandoned; Resettlements.

Cont...

"Given that Climate Change will occur irrespective of whatever the urgent global actions taken, Nigeria needs as a nation to put in place robust portfolio or mix of strategies that includes mitigation and adaptation if we are not to slow down the pace of progress towards sustainable development."
'Nigeria: The Challenge of changing global climate.' The Guardian, Monday, December 24, 2007. Page 40

...Possible Adaptation Measures



At Issue: Degradation of Soils and Land Resources

Adopting agricultural systems adequate to protect the soil from erosion; Establishment of mechanical and engineering structures (e.g. check dams, storm diversion channels, bench terraces, contour bunds), as well as biological measures (e.g. cover cropping, mulching, contour cultivation, minimum or zero tilling) that could reduce soil erosion; Efficient use of compost to replenish humus losses from soils;

At Issue: Crop Production

Diversification to new plant species and varieties that would have higher resistance to anticipated temperature increase and reduced rainfall; Improving local agricultural crop varieties that are well acclimated and drought and pest resistant; Development of varieties and hybrids that would allow separation in time of critical development phases from the limiting environmental factors, particularly rainfall, affecting productivity;

Adopting minimum or zero tillage and other appropriate technologies to reduce soil erosion and loss of organic matter and nutrients, but increase soil moisture availability to plants and reduce weed and pest infestation;

Introduction of new irrigation schemes to dry land management to improve water use efficiency and minimize moisture stress for crops, particularly in the Sudan-Sahel zone; Improved use of fertilizer, including varying the amounts and timing of application and promotion of organic fertilizer to match application to altered pattern of rainfall, avoid pest, weed and disease damage;

Farmers encouraged to use meteorological forecasts

At Issue: Livestock

Reduction in stocking rates or livestock density; Adoption of supplementary feeding; Change in mix of grazers or browsers; Flexibility in the location of the watering points to promote alteration of animal distribution; Restoring degraded areas; Increasing rangeland vegetation and/or adapted species; Development of large-scale watershed projects; Discouraging the use of marginal lands and protecting areas that is degraded; Enhancement of veterinary and extension services;

At Issue: Energy

Vigorous and extensive tree planting for fuelwood and other purposes; Easy relocation of threatened power generation and transmission facilities; Citing new facility development in location that is minimally threatened by sea level rise; Physically protect highly sensitive energy production facilities (e.g. oil rigs with physical barriers); Develop and enhance utilization of renewable energy resources solar energy.

At Issue: Transport

Drainage construction in and around ports in coastal areas; Emplacement of storm surge barriers around airports; Appropriate choice of sites for airports and motor parks; Careful design of highways and railway lines taking into account expected changes in soil moisture changes due to Climate Change.

Climate Change Information-Sharing

The BNRCC team is committed to information-sharing, and is pleased to provide a sampling of the many local and international organizations working to address climate change in Nigeria and abroad. The growing depth of knowledge on Climate Change, and the number of organizations around the world dedicated to its study, are reflective of the profound urgency of the Climate Change issue. Stay informed about the BNRCC Project and Climate Change in Nigeria; and find even more Climate Change resources on our new project website. Visit us today!



www.nigeriaclimatechange.org

"The good news is that experience shows that reducing carbon emissions is profitable for companies doing business in California. Hundreds of companies have reduced energy consumption, saving money in the process."
California governor Arnold Schwarzenegger

Nigerian Groups Working on Climate Change

Women Farmers Advancement Network, Kano Nigeria (WOFAN): In December, 2007, WOFAN partnered with IDRC, ARDA, University of Guelph, and DFID to produce a Resource Kit on Climate Change titled *"Climate Change and Current Issues Facing the Development of Agriculture and Rural Livelihoods in Northern Nigeria"*.

Contact Information: Hajia Salamatu Garba Jibril, National Coordinator – WOFAN, Plot 18, Yahaya Gusau Road, NNDC Quarters, P.O. Box 22 (Gyadi-Gyadi) Kano Nigeria, Tel.: 234-64-665487, Fax: 234-64-662199, email: info@wofan.org / Web: www.wofan.org

Nigerian Conservation Foundation (NCF): The Nigerian Conservation Foundation is presently working on the "Participatory Renewable Natural Resources Management Project - Buru and Laminga". The project was conceived in 1995 to improve the livelihood of rural people, most especially the poorest sectors of Nigerian society.

Contact Information: Km 19 Lagos-Epe Expressway, Lekki, Lagos. P.O. Box 74638, Victoria Island, Lagos Nigeria. Tel. +234 1 2642498 / 2600600 Ext. 7901 - 7906, Fax. +234 1 2642497 email: info@ncf-nigeria.org / Web: www.ncf-nigeria.org

Cont...

...Nigerian Organizations



African Radio Drama Association (ARDA) Nigeria: ARDA, a Nigeria-based internet radio station organized a workshop in December 2007 in Abuja tagged; *“Climate Change Adaptation Goes Soap!”* - Drama held in Abuja. The workshop brought a unique group of collaborators, ranging from soap opera writers to agricultural scientists, to evaluate the effectiveness of radio drama as a tool to help smallholder farmers in northern Nigeria adapt to Climate Change.

Contact Information: Dr. (Mrs.) Data Phido, Program Director, The African Radio Drama Association (ARDA), Plot 211, Muri Okunola Street, Victoria Island Lagos, Nigeria. Tel.: (234) 1 4705390, Fax: (234) 1 2621930, email: info@ardabroadcasting.org / dphido@ardabroadcasting.org

The University of Ibadan (UI): The University of Ibadan in collaboration with Ogun State Agricultural Development Programme (OGADEP) and Foundation for Development and Environmental Initiatives (FDI) is currently engaged in the *“Community-led climate adaptation programme for sustainable livelihoods in coastal areas of south-western Nigeria”* project. The project commenced in June 2007 under the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) managed programme, ‘Advancing Capacity to Support Climate Change Adaptation’ (ACCCA)

Contact Information: Dr. (Mrs) Ibidun O. Adelekan, Department of Geography, University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Nigeria. Tel: 08023470003, email: ibidun.adelekan@mail.ui.edu.ng / ibiadelekan@yahoo.com

Coalitions for Change (C4C): C4C in coalition with Nigeria Climate Action Network had a *Press Conference on Climate Change* on the 2nd of April, 2008; the Conference was organized to sensitize the nation with C4C activities on Climate Change in Nigeria. C4C also has a report on the action of Lagos State government on climate change on their website.

Contact Information: 3rd Floor Oakland Centre, 48, Aguiyi Ironsi Street, Maitama Abuja, Tel: +234 9 413 6256, Fax: +234 9 413 6258, email: info@coalitions4change.org / Web: www.coalitions4change.org

Nigeria Model United Nations Society (NigMUNS): NigMUNS is preparing a conference in October 2008 for Senior Secondary School Students in Nigeria on a theme *“Climate Change: A Challenge to Everyone”*. The Conference aims to create awareness about Climate Change among Nigerian youth.

Contact Information: -Nigeria Model United Nations Society, 3, Ziguinchor Street (Beside PHCN), Zone 4, P. O. Box 16177 Wuse, Abuja, Nigeria. Tel: 09 – 5233811, 2224422 Fax: 09 – 5233812, Tel: (Mobile) 08058455565, 08068896000, and 08022412464, email: info@nigmuns.org, nigmuns@yahoo.com / Web: www.nigmuns.org

International Organizations Working in Nigeria

Heinrich Boel foundation (HBF): HBF is currently executing a Climate Change project in Nigeria, titled “*Lagos under Water*”. The project aims to increase awareness of stakeholders on the impacts and consequences of Climate Change and global warming on Nigeria’s economy.

Contact Information: 16A, Oladipo Diya Street, Second Avenue Extension, Ikoyi Lagos. email: info@boellnigeria.org / Web: www.boellnigeria.org

International Development Research Centre (IDRC): IDRC is presently working in conjunction with the Nigerian-owned ARDA Radio on a project titled “*Strengthening the capacity of small-holder farmers to adapt to climate change through Radio Drama*”. The project, which started on 14th May, 2007, aims to inform smallholder farmers, particularly women, which are more vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, on how to adopt a method of farming which will help them to mitigate the impacts of Climate Change on their livelihoods.

Contact Information: Regional Office for West and Central Africa, BP 11007 PEYTAVIN, Dakar, Senegal / *Street address:* Rue de Saint-Louis, angle de l’avenue Cheikh Anta Diop Point E Dakar, Sénégal. Phone: (+221) 33-864-0000 Fax: (+221) 33-825-3255, email: jgerard@idrc.org.sn / Web: www.idrc.ca/braco

Christian Aid (CA): CA has worked with Nigerian Environmental Study/Action Team (NEST) between November, 2007 and June, 2008 to host a National Stakeholders’ Workshop. The Workshop is designed to help develop a road map towards having a National Adaptation Plan of Action (NAPA).

Contact Information: Web: africa@christian-aid.org

Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA): CIDA is currently sponsoring this “Building Nigeria’s Response to Climate Change” (BNRCC) Project, with the aim of reducing poverty and improving living conditions for Nigerians through the development of better Climate Change adaptation strategies.

The project is being implemented by implemented by NEST in partnership with CUSO (www.cuso.org) and Marbek Resource Consultants Ltd. (www.marbek.ca).

Contact Information: CIDA Program Support Unit, Bobo Street, Maitama Abuja, Nigeria. P.O. Box 5144 Abuja, Nigeria. Tel: (011 234 9) 413-9910, Fax: (011 234 9) 413-9911 email: abuja@international.gc.ca / Web: www.acdi-cida.gc.ca

More Climate Change Resources



Cities for Climate Protection

The goal of the Cities for Climate Protection Campaign is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions resulting from the burning of fossil fuels and other human activities
USA

www.iclei-usa.org

Climate Action Network

A coalition of 269 environmental organizations pushing for cuts in greenhouse gases
BONN, GERMANY

www.climatenetwork.org

Climate Change Research Library

A treasure trove of information and resources for the study of climate change
WASHINGTON DC, USA

www.worldwatch.org

Climate Crisis

This is a resource website that talks gave a description of the documentary on Climate Change around the world as prepared by Al gore in movie titled: *"An Inconvenient Truth"*

www.climatecrisis.net

Department for International Development

www.dfid.gov.uk

Environmental Defence Fund

A not-for-profit environmental advocacy group with four main goals: stabilizing the Earth's climate, safeguarding the world's oceans, protecting human health, and defending and restoring biodiversity
NEW YORK, USA

www.edf.org

Friends of the Earth: Climate

Campaigns, and help stop catastrophic climate change
LONDON, UK

www.foe.co.uk

Greenpeace: Climate

Greenpeace campaigns for governments to face up to their responsibilities and to urgently address global climate change as one of the greatest threats to the planet
AZ AMSTERDAM, NETHERLANDS

www.greenpeace.org

Global Climate Change Student Guide

A comprehensive work for geology, geography and environmental science students studying climate change

www.ace.mmu.ac.uk

Hadley Centre for Climate Prediction and Research

Provides the UK government with up-to-date assessments of both natural and man-made climate change
DEVON, UNITED KINGDOM

www.metoffice.gov.uk

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)

Assesses the scientific, technical and socio-economic information relevant for the understanding of the risk of human-induced climate change

www.ipcc.ch

International Institute for Sustainable Development

Champions sustainable development around the world through innovation, partnerships, research and communications

MANITOBA, CANADA

www.iisd.org

The International Development Research Centre

Works in close collaboration with researchers from the developing world in their search for the means to build healthier, more equitable, and more prosperous societies

OTTAWA, CANADA

www.idrc.ca

The National Centre for Atmospheric Research NCAR

Conducts atmospheric research programs and helps transfer new technologies to the private sector
BOULDER, USA
www.ncar.ucar.edu

The Woods Hole Research Centre: Global Warming

A beginner's guide to understanding the issue of global warming
MASSACHUSETTS, USA
www.whrc.org

UNEP's Information Unit for Conventions

UNEP's newsletter on international environmental treaties
www.unep.org

Union of Concerned Scientists

Works to ensure that all people have clean air and energy, as well as safe and sufficient food
WASHINGTON DC, USA
www.ucsusa.org

United Nations Framework on Climate Change Convention

Includes methodologies and tools to evaluate strategies for adaptation to climate change
BONN, GERMANY
www.unfccc.int

University of Cambridge Centre for Atmospheric Science

Take a tour of the ozone hole or learn about the university's various atmospheric research projects
UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE, UK
www.atm.ch.ac.uk

World Climate Research Programme

Develops scientific understanding of the physical climate system and climate processes needed for predictions
GENEVA 2, SWITZERLAND
www.wmo.int

World Meteorological Organization

Coordinates global scientific activity in several areas, including: air pollution research, climate change and ozone depletion studies
GENEVA 2, SWITZERLAND
www.wmo.ch

World Resources Institute: Climate, Energy, & Transport

Protecting the global climate system from further harm due to emissions of greenhouse gases and help humanity and the natural world adapt to unavoidable climate change
WASHINGTON DC, USA
www.wri.org

World Wildlife Fund: Climate

Aims to ensure that industrialized nations set in motion a permanent downward trend in their domestic emissions of carbon dioxide (CO₂) - the leading global warming gas - as a first step towards substantial reductions in emissions by 2010
www.panda.org

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BNRCC

BNRCC Project
c/o NEST
1 Oluokun Street, Bodija
UIPO Box 22025
Ibadan, NIGERIA
Tel: +234.2.7517172
Fax: +234-2-8501213
Email: info@nestinteractive.org

Stay in touch, stay informed, stay engaged! Visit our website today to learn about the latest BNRCC project developments, explore our Climate Change resources, and find out how YOU can take action. Sign on to our new “Friends of BNRCC” online database and be the first to get exciting BNRCC news as it happens!

www.nigeriaclimatechange.org



“The theme of this Session’s General Debate, ‘Responding to Climate Change’ is most apposite. The African continent is particularly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. In our collective determination to face up to this challenge, African leaders at the Assembly of the Heads of State and Government of the African Union in Addis Ababa last January, decided to integrate climate change issues into all sustainable development initiatives at national and regional levels.”

Nigerian President Umaru Musa Yar’Adua at the 62nd Session of the UN General Assembly



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