

AFRICA  
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# NEWSLETTER

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Mrs Rose Musasiz Buyunze, Luuka District in Eastern Uganda ©AVSI Foundation

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# MESSAGE FROM GARETH PHILLIPS

MANAGER, CLIMATE & ENVIRONMENT  
FINANCE DIVISION

Dear Reader,

Welcome to the second edition of our 2024 quarterly Newsletter. We are pleased to report significant progress in implementing the Africa Climate Change Fund's 2024 Workplan. As we look forward to more results in the coming months, we are excited to share updates on our key achievements over the past three months.

Ahead of the upcoming 4th Call for proposals on Gender Transformative Methane Reduction, the ACCF collaborated with various organisations to organize information sessions attended by over 4,000 participants.

In Kenya, the United Nations Population Fund launched an ACCF-funded project aimed at enhancing climate resilience by strengthening the capacity of individuals, communities, and institutions to develop and implement gender-transformative climate adaptation actions. In Senegal, the sub-national governments project is bridging the access to climate finance gap by establishing a climate finance platform. The Climate resilient agriculture project in Rwanda trained 200 farmers on manure and composting, and advanced the construction of fruit-selling points and cold rooms to support farmers in selling their products, encouraging them to plant fruit trees as part of an agroforestry approach. In Malawi and Mozambique, the OXFAM led project has enhanced the transformative leadership capacities of women and local movement structures for active engagement in climate resilient plans, budgets, and programs. Additionally, the project trained climate champions in 12 countries on the use of NDC implementation, monitoring, and tracking tools to effectively track their countries' NDCs.

Under the UNFCCC Regional Collaboration Centre- Kampala led project hosted a key dialogue on gender equality in climate action, featuring strong female participation with 119 women and 32 men. The dialogue aimed to empower women negotiators and advance gender equality in climate discussions.

Finally, meet Jean-Yves ANDE, Project Coordinator of the ACCF access to climate finance project in Cote d'Ivoire. Jean-Yves shares his experience working on this project and the key results achieved upon its completion in 2022.

Looking ahead, we are preparing to launch our fourth call for proposals in September 2024. This call will offer grants from \$250,000 to \$1 million to eligible beneficiaries across Africa in the methane abatement sectors (including supporting monitoring and reporting on methane emissions in oil and gas, agriculture, waste management and wastewater treatment). We encourage you to stay tuned by constantly visiting our webpage to be the first to apply.

We value your feedback, so please feel free to reach out for further engagement on any relevant issue.

Thank you !

## ACCF Increases Awareness Among Civil Society Organizations and Francophone Countries on Upcoming 4th Call for Proposals



On May 17 and 20, 2024, the ACCF Secretariat co-organized two online information sessions with the CSOs Engagement Division of the African Development Bank (Bank) and the "Institut de la Francophonie et du Développement Durable - IFDD". The primary goal of these meetings was to increase participation from eligible African entities in the ACCF's upcoming fourth Call for Proposals. These sessions, which attracted over four thousand participants (>2,000 participants each), provided a platform to introduce the ACCF, highlighting its funding mechanisms, project selection, and management cycle. Additionally, they showcased the Bank's CSO engagement approach and the IFDD's support to Francophone African entities. This initiative is a part of the ACCF's broader strategy to raise public awareness of the Fund and the opportunities it offers to support African countries in their transition towards low-carbon development.

Speaking on behalf of the Bank, Managers at the Climate Change and Green Growth Department of the Bank, Dr Al Hamndou Dorsouma, and Mr. Gareth Phillips both praised the ACCF's contribution to addressing Africa's climate change challenges. They noted its current position as one of the Bank's main climate financing instruments, with a track record of 28 projects that enhance the capacities of governments and other institutions to access international climate finance. Dr Dorsouma added that "today's meeting aims to encourage key players in local development in French-speaking African countries (public administrations, local governments, civil society organizations, research institutions and the private sector) to submit more innovative projects with strong potential for strengthening climate resilience and supporting the transition to sustainable, low-carbon growth."

Mr. Phillips, added, "The large number of participants is a testament to the interest of participants in accessing more climate finance, and the ACCF is committed to increase its resources to address the growing demand from potential beneficiaries."

Luther Yameogo, Principal CSO Engagement Advocacy Officer, reaffirmed the Bank's strong commitment to strengthening collaboration with African CSOs, noting that this session is a step forward with more initiatives planned for the future. Mrs Marie-Hélène Sultan, Director of the Quebec Office in Abidjan and Representative of Quebec in the ACCF Oversight Committee addressed participants on a positive note emphasizing Quebec's commitment to support the African Development Bank in its ongoing efforts to promote adaptation solutions at national and community levels to tackle climate change issues.

The Director insisted on relevance of capacity building for African stakeholders, especially from Francophone countries, to increase their access to significant climate funds and commended the platform provided by the ongoing meeting which contributes to achieving this objective. Mrs. Cecile Martin-Phipps, Director of IFDD welcomed the opportunity for the meeting and the relevance of collaborating with the ACCF on previous outreach and stakeholder engagement activities, especially at the margin of the UNFCCC Conference of Parties. She reiterated her organization's strong support for francophone countries in Africa to increase their access to international climate finance and implement their climate change agenda.

Participants expressed their satisfactions with the information session and the majority committed to submitting their project proposals at the launch of the Call.

## KENYA

### UNFPA Launches Resilient Futures: Empowering National Climate Actors for Gender-Transformative Adaptation Project



EXPERT TRAINING ON INTEGRATION OF SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH RIGHTS, GENDER AND GENDER BASED VIOLENCE INTO CLIMATE ACTION.

*Sarova Whitesands Beach Resort & Spa -Mombasa, 29th– 31st May 2024*

The United Nations Population Fund held a training and agenda-setting workshop in Mombasa, Kenya, from 27-31 May 2024, to identify priorities on the integration of sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) and gender into climate action. This five-day workshop marked the launch of the project, featuring a high-level capacity-building and agenda-setting program that introduced participants to innovative climate action strategies. The workshop aimed to set priorities for integrating sexual and reproductive health and rights and gender action into climate action.

The Resilient Futures project seeks to enhance climate resilience by building the capacity of individuals, communities, and institutions to develop and implement gender-transformative climate adaptation actions. It employs innovative and participatory approaches, including comprehensive sexuality education and climate change education for youth, climate hacklab challenges, and vulnerability assessment exercises.

The project will be implemented across ten East and Southern African countries: Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Sudan, Tanzania, Zambia, and Zimbabwe, with a primary focus on Kenya, Madagascar, Mozambique, and South Sudan.

The workshop brought together 40 participants, including national government officials, County Chief Officers from 10 Arid and Semi-Arid Land counties, and leaders from civil society and youth-focused organizations. The training featured multimedia presentations, in-person and online masterclasses delivered by leading experts, interactive breakout discussions, and brainstorming sessions for developing climate action plans.

The workshop aimed to enhance participants' capacity to integrate SRHR, gender-based violence (GBV) and harmful practices interventions into climate change-related policies, plans, strategies and programming. It focused on preventing maternal mortality, reducing GBV-related morbidity and mortality, and promoting resilient health outcomes. Modules covered topics such as the impact of climate change on SRHR and GBV, root causes of gender inequality, and determinants of gender-transformative changes in climate action in Kenya. The fourth day of the workshop, stakeholders discussed the need for climate-related vulnerability assessments that integrate SRHR, GBV and harmful practices. Presentations and information sessions provided guidance on approaching counties for these assessments.

The workshop featured presentations from key government ministries including the Ministries of Health, Gender and Climate Change as well as the National Drought Management Authority (NDMA). The week-long session concluded with the creating *Final Action Plan*, with participants agreeing on action plans across six key areas: Climate Resilient Health Systems; SRHR, GBV, Harmful Practices and Climate response; Climate Data, Vulnerability and Research; Youth Action; Gender Transformative Approach (GTA)/Gender Budgeting and Climate Finance, and Institutional Framework. The UNFPA regional and country offices will follow up on the action plan's implementation, including vulnerability assessments to be completed by year.

Participants expressed their appreciation for the workshop, highlighting its role in enhancing their capacity and unveiling new climate action opportunities. They committed to ongoing engagement with government ministries to ensure the delivery of the action plan.

## Key Stakeholders Engaged on Setting Up a Climate Financing Information Platform

Access to information in Senegal, particularly at the local level, is a significant challenge in the fight against climate change. To address this, the project has developed an IT platform called "Help desk."

This platform is designed to assist local authorities by providing information on climate financing, helping identify relevant opportunities, and developing capacities of stakeholders at the local level.

On May 7-8, 2024, the project team organised two regional workshops in Kaffrine and in Saint-Louis, Senegal. These meetings aimed to share the "Help desk" platform with members of the Regional Climate Change Committees (COMRECC) from the project focus areas.

The goal was to inform local authorities about current issues related to access to information, thereby enhancing their ability to formulate bankable project that can secure climate financing tailored to the needs of local governments. The workshops also served as a platform to discuss the management and utilization of this new tool with all relevant stakeholders.

The implementation of this tool is a key deliverable of the project, designed to build an inclusive and sustainable training and information system that addresses the concerns and aspirations of sub-national entities. The purpose is to facilitate access to climate funds by local governments to improve community resilience to climate change while strengthening their knowledge base. The ultimate aim is to promote innovative and decentralized climate change governance. Additionally, the platform will provide local and regional stakeholders with opportunities to interact with Senegalese experts and access innovative tools, such as a newsletter, on the latest climate change news.

Participants at the workshops welcomed the initiatives, emphasizing that strengthening the dissemination and use of climate information is essential to anticipate climate-related risks and enable local players to implement climate projects. This platform provides a forum for knowledge exchange, aiming to improve the integration of climate considerations into local development agenda

For more information, please contact: Babacar Dia at [diababacar@hotmail.com](mailto:diababacar@hotmail.com).



View of the room with participants discussing the importance and challenges of the Help Desk platform (c)PNDL

## Advancing Transformative Leadership in Climate Resilience

The Gender Transformative Climate Resilience project recently conducted strategic training sessions in Kavelane and Lionde in Chokwe municipal of Mozambique and T.A Mwambo and Malemia in Zomba district in Malawi. These sessions aimed to amplify women's voices and actions in climate justice by enhancing their leadership capacities. The training specifically targeted women and representatives from Disaster Risk Management, development sectors and women local movement structures to engage actively, influence climate resilience plans, budgets, and programs, and mainstream gender-transformative leadership into strategies to mitigate impacts of climate change.

In Mozambique, trainers from the Gender Affairs Coordination Center at Eduardo Mondlane University facilitated the sessions, while in Malawi, officials from the Zomba District Council's gender department led the training.

A total of 101 participants (32 men, 69 women) attended the sessions in both countries. Key topics delivered during the training included: (i) Gender Transformative Leadership and governance; (ii) Types of leadership; (iii) Group dynamics; (iv) Tools for preventing, mitigating, and responding to climate change while promoting gender equality in resilience interventions; (v) Climate change and its impact on the Chokwé district; (vi) Gender-Responsive Emergency Plans, including an analysis of District and Municipal Contingency Plan for the 2023 - 2024 season and (vii) Community Participation in Resilience Programs and Gender-based violence (GBV) in terms of sexual exploitation and abuse, sexual harassment and the reporting and management of these issues in the context of natural disasters.

For more information, please contact: [Elias Khozombwe at ekhozombwe@oxfam.org.uk](mailto:ekhozombwe@oxfam.org.uk)



Participants of Transformative Leadership in climate Resilience at Chokwe Municipal Headquarters in Mozambique (c) OXFAM

## Empowering Climate Champions in Sub-Saharan Africa to Track and Monitor their countries' NDCs



The ACCF is making significant strides in enhancing the capacity of selected sub-Saharan African countries to effectively measure progress in their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) implementation. The project, *"Building the Capacity of Selected sub-Sahara African Countries to Effectively Measure Progress in their NDCs Implementation Using Tracking Tools and Indexes,"* achieved notable milestones this quarter, setting a solid foundation for impactful climate action across the region.

On May 22, 2024, a capacity-building workshop was conducted across twelve participating sub-Saharan countries, training climate champions on using the NDC implementation, monitoring, and tracking tools. Facilitated remotely from Nairobi, Kenya, the semi-hybrid training brought together in-country climate champions, fostering collaboration and hands-on learning. The sessions covered essential aspects of the NDCs, including the components and frameworks of NDCs, the significance of Measurement, Reporting, and Verification (MRV) processes, and the financing mechanisms vital for NDC implementation. Participants found the training valuable and insightful, with positive feedback on its impact.

Ann Karungi from Uganda remarked: *"the tool and indices introduced during this training are game changers for our climate action plans."* Similarly, Haja Sesay from Sierra Leone appreciated *"the clarity and depth of the MRV processes, stating that they provided a clearer roadmap for our NDC commitments."*

Building on this momentum, three Regional Stakeholder Sensitization and Engagement Workshops were held virtually in June 2024, covering Eastern, Western and Southern Africa. These workshops aimed to broaden the understanding and engagement of key stakeholders in NDC implementation and monitoring, fostering collaboration and knowledge sharing. Participants praised the comprehensive content and interactive format of these workshops, which delved into data collection methodologies and the development of NDC indexes crucial for informed decision-making.

Laina Mbogo from Namibia noted that during the Southern Africa workshop, *"The regional workshop has deepened our understanding of NDC tracking and monitoring tools and connected us with peers facing similar challenges."* George Oselu from Kenya echoed this sentiment during the Eastern Africa workshop, stating that *"The knowledge shared here is invaluable."*

In a significant step forward, contracts have been signed with climate champions in each of the 12 countries involved. These champions are set to embark on a detailed data collection exercise, forming the backbone of the NDC tracking and monitoring process to develop the Index. This initiative not only ensures accountability but also promotes transparency in reporting climate action progress. The immediate impact of these initiatives is evident in the enhanced capacity of the climate champions and stakeholders. In the long term, the robust monitoring and tracking of NDCs will lead to more effective climate policies and actions, aligning with the goals of the Paris Agreement and promoting significant climate resilience across the sub-Saharan African region.

For more information please contact:  
 Dr. Nicholas Ozor, at [executivedirector@atpsnet.org](mailto:executivedirector@atpsnet.org)  
 or visit the project's website at:  
<https://atpsnet.org/atps-afdb-accf-ddw-ndc-project/>.

## Third Regional Dialogue for National Gender Climate Change Focal Points

The UN Climate Change Regional Collaboration Centre for East and Southern Africa (RCC ESA) partnered with UN Women and UNDP to host a key dialogue for gender equality in climate action. Held in Nairobi, Kenya from April 16-18, 2024, the event engaged National Gender and Climate Change Focal Points (NGCCFPs) from 32 countries. This dialogue was a critical part of the RCC's capacity-building project, supported by the AfDB through the Africa Climate Change Fund. With strong female participation of 119 women and 32 men, the event aimed to empower women negotiators and advance gender equality in climate discussions.

Moving forward, the project is conducting virtual training for women and gender negotiators in Africa in collaboration with the African Group of Negotiators Experts Support (AGNES) on Climate Change and Gender Transformative Approaches. This program specifically targets over 52 women and gender negotiators across Africa. The training aims to strengthen their expertise in advocating for gender-responsive climate action. It also fosters knowledge sharing, collaboration, and the exchange of best practices among these professionals, who are dedicated to harnessing the power of gender equality to address climate challenges across the continent.

For more information, please contact:  
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Participants at the dialogue for gender equality in climate action (c)RCC EASA



## Promoting Climate-Smart Agriculture for Improved Rural Livelihoods and Climate Resilience in Eastern Province

From March to June 2024, the project team trained 200 people across four districts in Rwanda's Eastern Province-Nyagatare, Gatsibo, Kayonza and Kirehe- on manure management and composting. The training aimed to equip participants with practical skills in compost preparation, enabling them to produce organic compost for their agricultural needs and enhancing their professionalism in farming. The training was designed as participatory learning experiences, featuring interactive techniques like group discussions, illustrations and demonstrations. Trainees were encouraged to apply their new skills by creating compost from locally available materials at home, a practice they are now implementing. The project team conducted follow up visits to these homes, offering additional guidance on best practices.

In addition, the project successfully installed a solar-powered irrigation system in Kayonza District, Murama Sector. The system includes 34 solar panels, each generating 430 W, representing 14,620 W. It also features an irrigation network for water distribution and a control unit for managing pump operations and ensuring efficient water usage. This irrigation facility will help farmers better cope with drought conditions, significantly improving their livelihoods.

The project is also nearing completion of fruit selling points and cold storage facilities in Kirehe and Nyagatare districts. These facilities will support farmers in selling their produce, motivating them to plant more fruits trees as part of an integrated agroforestry approach.

For more information, please contact:  
 Rose Onyango at [R.Onyango@cifor-icraf.org](mailto:R.Onyango@cifor-icraf.org).



Farmers during the training on composting in Gatsibo District, Rwimbogo Sector (c)ICRAF

Shot on ANESOME 470



**Can you briefly introduce yourself, your organization, and your role in the project?**

I am Jean-Yves ANDE, an Economist and Climate Finance Expert at the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development of Cote d'Ivoire. I coordinate the climate finance access readiness program for Cote d'Ivoire.

**How did you learn about the ACCF and its Call for Proposals, and what motivated you to apply?**

The National Climate Change Program (NCCP), the operational entity of our Ministry, is always on the lookout for opportunities to implement sustainable and innovative solutions. We discovered the ACCF's call for proposals through our climate financing monitoring and research system, specifically on the African Development Bank website. We were motivated to apply by the opportunity to contribute to concrete initiatives aimed at mobilizing resources for climate mitigation and adaptation action in Côte d'Ivoire. The ACCF's call for proposals presented an opportunity to translate our climate commitments into impactful projects that could benefit both Ivorians and the environment.

**Has your organization previously received a grant from the Bank?**

Yes, this was our second time receiving funding from the Bank. Our first grant was through the ClimDev- Africa initiative.

**Could you briefly describe your project's rationale and key objectives?**

Following the COP21 in Paris, Côte d'Ivoire made climate commitments through its Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). To fulfil these commitments, we need adequate funding for climate action. Our project aimed to support Côte d'Ivoire in mobilizing international resources to fund its climate initiatives and transition towards a climate-resilient, low-emission development. Specifically, the project aimed to:

- Develop a complete Climate Smart Agriculture project proposal for submission to the Adaptation Fund

**Jean-Yves ANDE**

**Project Coordinator, Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, Government of Cote d'Ivoire**

***"The project's strength includes its clear and relevant objectives, aligned with local needs, and its success in mobilizing resources despite being catalytic funding."***

- Develop two project concept notes for submission to the Green Climate Fund (GCF), one focused on bioenergy and the other on multi-risk climate early warning system.

- Train 40 national actors from sector ministries, research centers, civil society organizations and the private sector on project formulation according to the climate finance requirements.

- Support the accreditation of two national entities, including the Interprofessional Fund for Research and Agricultural Consulting (FIRCA) and the Ivorian Office of Parks and Reserves (OIPR), to the GCF.

**What are some of the project's concrete achievements? We achieved three major results:**

- (i) Trained 40 national actors from Ministries, the private sector, research centers and civil society organizations in project formulation for climate finance mobilization.

- (ii) Secured \$6 million from the Adaptation Fund for the project ***"Increasing the adaptive capacity and resilience of rural communities to climate change in the Bandama watershed"***.

- (iii) FIRCA is in the final phase of accreditation with the Green Climate Fund, pending notification.

**What do you identify as the strengths and challenges of the project?**

The project's strength includes its clear and relevant objectives, aligned with local needs, and its success in mobilizing resources despite being catalytic funding. The involvement of technical and financial partners like UNDP, FAO, and IFAD, and the close support from the ACCF Secretariat, were also crucial. The flexibility and responsiveness of the ACCF team were highly appreciated, particularly in overcoming challenges during the COVID-19 pandemic. However, we faced some delays in project activities due to the pandemic and underestimating certain technical challenges, especially the procedures for accessing funds from GCF and Adaptation Fund.

**What are the key lessons from your experience with the ACCF on this project?**

Our experience with the ACCF underscored the importance of maintaining a constant focus on project outcomes and impact, clear and transparent communication, and continuous learning and adaptation. Clear and transparent communication with the ACCF was essential to ensure the smooth running of the project. Regularly communicating progress, challenges, and support needs was essential for the project's success.

Overall, this collaboration was a valuable learning experience enhancing our project management skills, strengthening partnerships, and contributing significantly to the fight against climate change.

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