



# Support to the Africa Adaptation Initiative

## Final report

December 2020

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## 1. CONTEXT

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The Africa Adaptation Initiative (AAI) was established with the objective of enhancing adaptation action and implementing approaches to address loss and damage in Africa. The AAI was formally launched at COP 21 in Paris in December 2015. To achieve its mandate, the AAI has four pillars: (1) enhancing climate information services to support decision-making; (2) strengthening policies and institutions; (3) enhancing on-the-ground action; and (4) mobilizing climate investment. The AAI's framework document outlining the targets and activities in each of the four pillars was launched in November 2016 at COP 22 in Marrakech. A workplan<sup>1</sup> outlining the planned activities for 2017-2018 was approved at a Technical Working Group (TWG) meeting held in May 2017. The functions of the TWG is to guide the operationalization of the AAI.

As part of the efforts to operationalise the AAI, the President of Gabon, His Excellency Ali Bongo Ondimba, in his capacity as the Chair of the Committee of African Heads of State and Government on Climate Change (CAHOSCC) and the AAI's political champion, contributed USD 500,000 in December 2017 during the One Planet Summit in order to support the AAI. Through his leadership and strategic guidance, the year 2018 focussed on two key issue: 1) building partnerships and 2) resource mobilisation. It is these two elements of his vision that guided the work of the AAI in 2018.

- 1) On building partnerships - AAI played a catalytic role in building and strengthening partnerships with African institutions working in related areas of climate adaptation. It is through these partnerships that the AAI developed its four flagship programs.
- 2) On resource mobilisation - throughout the year, the AAI organised activities that were building up to a partner roundtable, held on the margins of the UN General Assembly on the 24th September 2018. The aim of the roundtable was to mobilise resources for the secretariat and to support the implementation of AAI's key flagship programs for Africa.

The Government of the Gabonese Republic requested the support of UNDP in the management of the Gabon's contribution to the operationalization of the African Adaptation Initiative mainly by: 1) organizing a round table of donors and 2) supporting the mobilization of funds for the African Initiative on Adaptation in Gabon.

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## 2. KEY ACTIVITIES RESULTS

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UNDP, through the cost sharing agreement, supported the Government of Gabon in playing its leadership role to operationalize the AAI from its inception, including through:

- Technical and policy advice and support;
- Financial support (notably the preparation of its initial Framework Document and Workplan, and now the preparation of its State of Africa Adaptation Report, the SoAR);
- Financing the Technical Support Unit that served as the interim Secretariat from 2015-2017 and now, hosting a temporary Secretariat.

To complement Gabon's contribution and effort, UNDP committed additional resources (\$200,000) from its global and regional programmes to the AAI to support the preparation and publication of a high-level summary report on the state of adaptation in Africa. The report aims to highlight the scale

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<sup>1</sup> The Framework document and other information about planned activities of AAI can be found at: [africaadaptationinitiative.org](http://africaadaptationinitiative.org).

of Africa's already ongoing adaptation actions as well as give a sense of the opportunities to accelerate and the gaps that still exist in targeting and in funding.

While the report could not be finalized in time for the Round Table, a technical discussion paper was prepared, highlighting four major areas of adaptation gaps in Africa – (i) in climate information services, (ii) in institutional capacity, (iii) in implementation, and (iv) in investment. The package prepared for the Round Table further includes an AAI value proposition presentation and four flagship programmes to be facilitated by AAI, for which investment from partners will be invited. The flagship programmes are on: (i) Africa Programme on Climate Services for Adaptation and Resilience, (ii) Lake Chad River Basin Early Warning System, (iii) Advancing Risk Transfer in Africa, (iv) Knowledge Management Programme for Adaptation.

To achieve the expected results, UNDP worked closely with the Ministry of Forest and Environment, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the National Climate Council.

The following is a summary of the activities and the achievements at the end of the implementation.

### **2.1) AAI Strategic Partners Meeting**

The Minister of Forest and Environment for Gabon, in his capacity as the Chair of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN), convened a two-day strategic meeting in Libreville, Gabon (**27-28 March 2018**) with partner organisations and institutions working on adaptation in Africa. The objectives of the partners meeting were as follows:

- Share with partners progress in the implementation of the AAI.
- Contribute to a strategic discussion about the AAI, the role and its value proposition.
- Agree on collective efforts for accelerating adaptation action in Africa, building on existing initiatives and programmes.
- Agree on concrete steps on how to take the AAI forward, through partnerships on a first "State of African Adaptation Report" (SoAR) and a Partners Roundtable.

A total of 30 representatives of partner institutions and organizations undertaking work related to climate adaptation across the African continent as well as several representatives of the Gabonese Government attended the meeting. The key outcomes of the meeting, as well as the key messages for continued partnership and collaboration in support of the resource mobilisation efforts of the AAI are summarized below. The full report of the meeting is attached in ANNEX 1.

#### **Key outcomes**

- Broad consensus amongst partners on the role and functions of the AAI. The AAI is a framework initiative for Africa that has the support at the highest political level. Its role is to convene, coordinate, broker, catalyse, facilitate, promote and advocate for enhanced action on climate adaptation in Africa.
- Partnerships for resource mobilization are crucial if the AAI is going to be successful. It was agreed that the AAI would convene a Partners Roundtable, in partnership with the Chair of the African Union (AU) and the UN Secretary General. The AAI would need to find ways to engage other partners, such as African Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and the private sector.
- Agreement on the need for the SoAR report as an important analytical and advocacy tool that should be prepared ahead of the partners' roundtable. The report would provide high-

level mapping of adaptation initiatives and existing gaps per sector; an analysis of the current and predicted financial flows for adaptation in Africa, and analysis of what African countries are spending/ investing on adaptation action. The findings of this report would inform the programming of the AAI in 2019 and beyond.

## **2.2) Resource mobilization tour**

As an outcome of the Strategic Partners Meeting, it was agreed that a delegation of the AAI would travel to major donor capitals to pitch the AAI to potential partners. Led by the Gabon Minister of Foreign Affairs, HE Régis Immongault, and including senior representatives of Gabon's National Climate Council, the AAI Coordinator and the UN Resident Coordinator in Gabon, the AAI delegation travelled to selected countries to present the AAI at the highest political level and discuss opportunities for partnerships.

The countries visited include Belgium, France, Germany, Norway, Sweden and the US. As part of this mission, a dedicated lunch briefing was held at UN Headquarters in New York on 6 June 2018 in the presence of the African Union Observer Mission. The briefing targeted some 30 Permanent Representatives of key partner countries. Several African countries that contribute to the international climate financing mechanisms were present. The objective of the meeting was to inform the diplomatic community about the AAI, to review progress to date and to inform them of the resource mobilization plan for the initiative.

### **Key outcomes**

- The AAI was well received, particularly because it represents an African owned initiative that is driven by African countries. The issue of scaling up successful initiatives and bringing the funds together to create/ strengthen capacity to access existing funds was also very attractive to donors.
- Some donors, such as Sweden, noted that they would be keen to provide technical assistance and in-kind support in the development of knowledge products.
- Some donors wanted more clarity on the difference between the African Climate Policy Center (ACPC) and the AAI. In future, this needs to be well communicated to partners. Many partners are already funding the ACPC and therefore, the link with the ACPC and the value add for the AAI needs to be made clearer.
- Donors are keen to support the AAI in future, particularly in the areas that they are already funding in Africa. Follow ups are needed with all the above countries to identify specific entry points for partnerships.
- In the course of the meeting, India announced a first contribution through the AAI to Gabon, to support climate change action. The amount was subsequently confirmed to be US\$1m of support, oriented towards a major upgrade of the national hydrometeorological system.

## **2.3) Diplomatic Corps briefing in Libreville**

The Gabonese Minister of Foreign Affairs, on behalf of the CAHOSCC President, hosted a diplomatic briefing in Libreville on the **1st of August 2018** to provide an update to the diplomatic community concerning the resource mobilisation tour that was held in June 2018, as well as inform them of the AAI plans moving forward. The briefing also aimed to provide an update on the preparations for the Partners Roundtable that would be held at the UN General Assembly on 24 September 2018. Finally,

it provided an update on the progress in raising the \$5 million to operationalise the AAI, and thus start implementing climate adaptation projects in Africa.

The briefing was well received and the AAI received reiterations of strong support from various countries including Brazil, Côte d'Ivoire, France, South Africa and the European Union.

#### **2.4) Africa State of Adaptation Report Stakeholder meeting**

The Minister of Forest and Environment for Gabon, in his capacity as the Chair of AMCEN Chair, convened a two-day meeting on the Africa State of Adaptation Report (SoAR) from **07-08 August 2018** in Libreville, Gabon. The aim of the meeting was to share the draft report and get feedback on the initial findings. The SoAR would articulate a baseline concerning adaptation action, while highlighting where further investments were needed. It would also provide an analysis of adaptation action on the continent, adaptation priorities as outlined in national documents and an analysis of how much Africa is already investing in adaptation from domestic resources. The report would provide African leaders with analytical elements to advocate for greater investment to support adaptation action in Africa.

#### **Key outcomes**

- The meeting allowed for constructive feedback from partners on the objective, structure and content of the report;
- There was also broad agreement on the need for a chapter on the AAI value proposition to be part of the report. The AAI value proposition should demonstrate what is compelling about the AAI and why partners should invest in it. It should also have links with the gaps identified in the SOAR and the flagship programmes proposed;

#### **2.5) Partners Roundtable**

The Government of the Gabonese Republic, in partnership with the AU and UNDP, hosted the AAI's first High-Level Partners Roundtable on the margins of the United Nations General Assembly on the **24<sup>th</sup> September 2018**. The aim of the roundtable was to support the implementation of the AAI, focusing on all the four pillars of the initiative, but specifically to:

- Sensitise and raise awareness of the importance of climate adaptation in Africa;
- Operationalise the AAI, by launching a resource mobilisation process to support the AAI secretariat (US\$5m)
- Launch the AAI's 4 flagship programmes by mobilising partners for their implementation in Africa.

The round table was attended by 50 African and international leaders. Representatives from Africa include; several Ministers from Congo, Morocco, Cote d'Ivoire, Rwanda, AU Commissioner for Rural Development, the Vice-President of the African Development Bank, African Risk Capacity (ARC) and the Lake Chad Basin Commission. At the international level, participation was from the Minister of Foreign Affairs of India, the United Nations Framework Convention on Change (UNFCCC) Secretariat, the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), the International Klimate Initiative (IKI), the European Union, the Adaptation Fund, the African Group of Negotiators and the Group of 77 Negotiating Group. The full report of the roundtable, including the full list of participants, is attached in this report as ANNEX 2.

## Key outcomes

- The AAI gained broad support from numerous partners that participated in the Roundtable. Strong and broad-based partnerships will be essential if the initiative is to succeed and achieve its intended goals.
- The Government of India pledged significant financial support to the AAI in the area of early warning systems with Gabon;
- The Adaptation Fund Secretariat indicated their interest to partner with the AAI, particularly with their Readiness Programme in order to better support African countries strengthen their institutional capacities to attract climate finance. The programme will also assist African countries design adaptation projects and implement actions to address the adverse effects of climate change;
- Germany expressed interest in engaging with the AAI to foster synergies across existing activities and develop new programmes where gaps exist;
- Support also came from all lead organisations of the four AAI flagship programmes for Africa, including:
  - The AfDB, through the Africa Programme on climate services for adaptation and resilience
  - The Lake Chad River Basin Commission, through developing an early warning system for the Lake Chad River Basin
  - The African Risk Capacity, through advancing risk transfer in Africa
  - UNDP and the Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI) on the knowledge management programme for adaptation planning in Africa. UNDP further undertook to make precise its support by the end of 2018.

The AAI will work with its partners to ensure that the political commitments and pledges made at the roundtable are translated into concrete action. The AAI is also moving forward with further stakeholder consultations with a view to scaling up efforts in 2019.

### **2.6) Second briefing of the diplomatic corps**

The Gabonese Minister of Foreign Affairs hosted the second Diplomatic briefing on the **21st November 2018**, in Libreville in order to inform the diplomatic community of the outcomes of the Round table and the next steps for the AAI.

The Minister highlighted the main messages from the round table, which are;

- 1) the recognition by all countries of the urgency to act for Africa's adaptation;
- 2) the effective engagement of African countries that are already taking responsibility for the consequences of climate change;
- 3) the fact that at least 3% of the GDP of African countries is devoted to the fight against climate change, which far exceeds international support, and
- 4) the cost of adaptation was highlighted, estimated at approximately 20 billion dollars per year.

Regarding the next steps, the Minister informed the Diplomats that the AAI is pursuing its activities with a short-term perspective of participation in COP24 in Katowice, the development of partnerships and finally, at the next African Union Summit, the official submission of the consolidated version of the State of Adaptation Report.

The Minister also added that Gabon will continue to support the work of the experts and its advocacy with all partners for enhanced action on adaptation in Africa.

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### **3. CHALLENGES**

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In 2018, while most of the activities were completed successfully, the main challenge that was faced by the AAI came with the struggle to complete the Africa State of Adaptation Report (SoAR). This was mostly due to challenges faced in securing a lead consultant. Tragically, the lead consultant initially secured for the work - Dr Webster Whande, who is remembered with great fondness – passed away suddenly. After his untimely passing, the AAI managed to secure a second consultant but due to unanticipated and serious legal reasons, his work had suddenly to be terminated, just as a contract was about to be signed. All these personnel challenges, mostly beyond the control of the secretariat, significantly impacted the timely completion of the SoAR. The AAI secretariat intends to facilitate the completion of the report in 2019.

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### **4. CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES**

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#### **4.1 Communications**

In parallel with all these activities, a major push was made on improving the visibility of the AAI through a concerted campaign of strategic communications. New and improved content was regularly added to the pre-existing AAI website. An electronic newsletter was established in the lead up to the Roundtable. A number of promotional videos were created and shown at the marquee events, including the Roundtable itself. And a concerted campaign of building attention through the use of social media was undertaken.

#### **4.2 Staffing**

Throughout 2018, a variety of temporary staff expertise was secured and seconded to the AAI with Gabonese support. A contract was issued for a full-time Coordinator for the first time – based in her native Botswana but travelling frequently, with Gabonese/AAI support to Libreville and on the international dimensions of the year's intensified work programme. Her work was supported by a project assistant based in Libreville, a media consultant (part-time) based in South Africa, and – in the run-up to the Roundtable – a communications consultant (based in London/Nairobi).

As noted above consultants were contracted to research, compile, edit and publish the SoAR Report. However, a series of very regrettable and unexpected developments prevented its timely completion.

The above work was considerably supplemented by expertise provided from within UNDP (Libreville, Addis Ababa, Bangkok and New York) and the broader UN system. This support ranged from thematic expertise to communications, financial, operational and administrative support. UNDP also contributed directly financially, through support with office space, equipment and through contributed staff time.

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### **5. RECOMMENDATIONS**

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The following are plans that would need to be pursued:

- i) Facilitate the completion of the Africa State of Adaptation Report;
- ii) The African Development Bank (AfDB), as the lead organisation for the AAI flagship programme, is keen to support initial activities related to the AAI flagship programme 1-



- Africa Programme on climate services for adaptation and resilience. Such activities include convening implementing countries, convening partner organisations that will be involved in the implementation of the programme and developing a fundable proposal to be submitted for implementation. A concept note and a budget is needed in the first half of 2019. This concept note should build upon the 2017/ 2018 activities of AAI Pillar 1, including the involvement of the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) and Global Framework on Climate Services (GFCS);
- iii) Partnership with the Green Climate Fund (GCF) will need to be pursued in 2019, particularly in the areas of 1) supporting the Africa Structured Dialogues in conceptualising and developing concrete proposals for funding under the AAI and 2) supporting the development of investment plans for adaptation in Africa;
  - iv) Develop and implement the project document for the India funded project on early warning systems for Gabon (as of end June 2019, the project document had been developed, submitted, approved and signed);
  - v) Continue discussions on partnership with the Global Adaptation Commission;
  - vi) Further development of a plan on how to operationalise the AAI four flagship programmes for Africa, and
  - vii) Facilitate further follow up with organizations that supported the AAI from inception and through 2018. These include the Adaptation of African Agriculture (AAA), UN Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the African Development Bank (AfDB), the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO), the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and the Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS).

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## 6. FINANCIAL REPORT

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The AAI was is led by the Government of Gabon and by UNDP, acting as the implementing partner agency. UNDP managed the government's contribution under the direct execution modality. The below summarises the disbursements as of 31 December 2019.

Items	Disbursements	
	2018	2019
Supplies, commodities, equipment and transport	38,804.94	5688.28
Personnel (staff, consultants, travel and training)	336,825.32	9,886.77
Training of counterparts	38,665.99	0
Contracts	17,177.06	1,000.00
Other direct costs	10,994.31	14,451.51
Indirect costs	22,178.80	1,535.02
<b>Total</b>	<b>464,646.42</b>	<b>32,561.58</b>

### Summary of the use of the Government's contribution

	Amount
Contribution received	506,162.00
Total disbursements	497,208.00
Balance (as of 31 December 2019)	8,954.00

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## 7. ANNEXES

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27 – 28 March 2018, Libreville, Gabon

### **OUTCOMES AND KEY MESSAGES**

#### **1) The Africa Adaptation Initiative value proposition**

The meeting started with a facilitated discussion about the value proposition of the AAI. The following two questions guided the discussions- 1) what is unique and compelling about the AAI? and 2) what should the role/ objective of AAI be?

There seemed to be broad consensus about the coordinating and facilitating role of AAI. In particular, there seemed to be broad agreement that AAI is a framework initiative for Africa that has the support at the highest political level. Its role is to convene, coordinate, broker, catalyse, facilitate, promote, advocate and represent. Specific roles include:

- Linking countries to climate adaptation resources, knowledge and technology by providing information, dialogue, lessons learnt and South-South match-making through connecting countries platform, tailored technical and advisory services (e.g. databases on bankable project developers and potential funders/investors);
- Leveraging from existing continental/flagship initiatives as implementing partners of for each pillar of the AAI and profile political visibility for the regional and continental initiatives
- Work with partners to facilitate capacity building for climate change adaptation across Africa;
- Advocate for accelerated action towards closing of the adaptation gap in Africa by adequately preparing African countries to plan and manage global climate finance through accessing available country readiness and implementation funding

#### **2) Resource mobilisation approach for the AAI**

One of the objectives of the meeting was to discuss with partners on the resource mobilization approach for the AAI. The following section summarises the discussions on the two key activities for immediate resource mobilisation - 1) state of adaptation report and 2) donor roundtable.

##### **2.1 State of Adaptation Report**

The Africa state of adaptation report is an important analytical and advocacy tool that should be prepared ahead of the donors' roundtable. The report will be structured as follows:

- 1) high-level mapping of adaptation initiatives and existing gaps per sector;
- 2) an analysis of the current and predicted financial flows for adaptation in Africa, including an analysis of the adaptation finance gap as articulated in the African NDCs (currently being done by the African Development Bank);
- 3) and analysis of what African countries are spending/ investing on adaptation action, building on the work currently being done by UNDP and ACPC.

The report needs to provide a baseline and a rationale for why an initiative like AAI is needed, and should also respond to the Vision of African Union Commission and African agenda 2063. Given the time constraints, a summary version will be prepared by August 2018, ahead of the September 2018 roundtable, while a more comprehensive report will be prepared in 2019. Partners for the development of the report include the AUC, AfDB (lead on NDCs assessment), UNEP, UNDP (lead on domestic investment in adaptation action), AGN, IFAD, AAA, ECA and the World Bank.

## 2.2 Preparations for the donor roundtable

The meeting discussed the approach for resource mobilisation and agreed on a 'package' that would need to be prepared ahead of the roundtable. The 'package' consists of 1) AAI value proposition; 2) AAI business plan and 3) the roadmap to the donor roundtable. All of these are summarised below:

### *The AAI value proposition:*

- The Africa State of Adaptation Report (high-level version).
- A video about the AAI.
- A brochure with key messages and AAI's value proposition (the brochure should demonstrate the value of investing in the AAI).
- Infographic that shows the implementing partners for each pillar.

### *The AAI business plan:*

- The AAI framework document – a summary version that includes info graphics and a synopsis.
- An updated AAI work plan.
- A document on how to operationalize the AAI, including its approved governance structure.
- Conclusions on the hosting arrangements for the AAI.

### *The Roadmap:*

- Roundtable participants to be decided by AAI team by mid April. Save the date letter to be sent by second half of April. Room to be booked immediately.
- Produce the state of adaptation report by July/ August 2018.
- Using key events such as the adaptation futures, share findings of the AAI technical work.
- Secure the support of the African Union Chair.
- The AMCEN Chair could consider sharing the outcome of AAI partners meeting at the next AMCEN Bureau meeting in May 2018.
- AMCEN to organise meeting of ambassadors in New York to sensitize the leaders who will be invited to the roundtable.
- AAI team to plan meetings in the capitals to pitch the AAI and prepare the road for securing pledges.
- CAHOSCC Chair to host a high-level donor roundtable on the margins of the UN General Assembly in September.

## 3) Recommendations and key messages

The following sections provides the main recommendations, key messages and next steps for AAI and its partners.

### 3.1 Recommendations

- Full engagement of the Africa Union at both technical and political level to be urgently reaffirmed.
- The AAI and its strategic partners need to have a clear roadmap/workplan by the next African Union Summit in Mauritania (July 2018)
- Loss and Damage is an important issue for Africa as the continent continues to experience increased incidences of droughts, floods and other extreme events. It is highly recommended that loss and damage issues be repackaged and brought back to the AAI agenda;
- There is an urgent need to develop an outreach and strategic communications strategy that will clearly define AAI's priorities, objectives, audiences and key messages;
- In terms of activities after the roundtable, it was proposed to develop an investment prospectus for adaptation action in Africa and organise an African head of state meeting on adaptation during the Africa Day at COP 24 in Poland.

### 3.2 Key messages

- There are many regional, sub-regional and national initiatives working on adaptation and related issues in the continent, with little coherence, largely uncoordinated and the potential for duplication of efforts. The Africa Adaptation Initiative, as a framework initiative, therefore has the potential to provide coordination and coherence among the initiatives and programmes to avoid duplication and maximize synergies. The AAI's role should be to convene, coordinate, facilitate, catalyse and advocate for enhanced adaptation action in Africa;
- High level partnerships with African institutions including the African Union Commission and the African Development bank are crucial in resource mobilization processes and efforts should be made to ensure their support in the AAI;
- For political leverage, it is recommended to convene the AAI donor roundtable with the Chair of the African Union, the UN Secretary General, and/or France as host of One Planet Summit. This will be determined by the AMCEN Chair;
- Partnerships for resource mobilization is crucial if the AAI is going to be successful. The AAI would need to find ways to engage other partners, such as African Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) and the private sector, while recognizing the challenge of the latter;
- The Gabonese Republic has made a significant contribution to the AAI. As we move into the operationalisation phase of the initiative, it is important to secure the support of other African heads of states. It is important for the AAI and its partners to develop a strategy on how to get support from other African heads of state.

### 3.3 Next steps

In terms of the next steps, it was agreed that a committee be established to assist the AAI team in the resource mobilisation work, which includes 1) production and compilation of all the necessary AAI documents and 2) the "leg work" (i.e. travel to engage the AU commission on how to access the Heads of State).

The following organisations expressed an interest in being part of the committee- African Union Commission (AUC), Adaptation of African Agriculture (AAA), UN Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the African Development Bank (AfDB), the World Meteorological Organisation

(WMO), the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and the Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS). In moving forward, the organisations will be contacted to support the AAI in the resource mobilization activities.

**Revised AAI 2018 Road Map to Donor round table September, 2018 New York**

N°	ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION AND GOAL	DATE AND PLACE	SUB-ACTIVITIES	PARTNERS	Duties
1	<b>Strategic &amp; Political Meetings</b>	The aim is to have initial meetings with partners to pitch the AAI. Partners include European Union (EU), Germany International Cooperation (BMU), French Development Agency (AFD), Nordic Development Fund (NDF), Japan	<b>01-04 May Bonn</b>	Identification of partners  Confirm meetings		
2	<b>Report on the State of Adaptation in Africa (SoAR)</b>	The aim of the report on the State of Adaptation in Africa is to provide African leaders with analytical elements to advocate for greater investment to support adaptation action in Africa. It will provide <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) A mapping of adaptation initiatives in Africa</li> <li>2) an analysis of current and required financial flows and financing gaps focusing on the key sectors identified by countries in their I/NDC.</li> <li>3) an assessment of the expenditure of adaptation by domestic resources (UNDP/ACPC)</li> </ol>	<b>20 March</b>  <b>09 April</b>  <b>16 April</b>  <b>04 May</b>  <b>11 July</b>  <b>27 July</b>	Finalization and Adoption of ToR  <i>Recruit lead and regional consultants for the SoAR</i>  <i>Approval of report outline</i>  <i>Steering Committee meeting on the Draft SoAR, Bonn Germany</i>  <i>Validation meeting to be hosted by a partner (UNEP? AfDB? Etc)</i>  Final SoAR for approval by AMCEN		

N°	ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION AND GOAL	DATE AND PLACE	SUB-ACTIVITIES	PARTNERS	Duties
			17 August	FINAL French and English Translated and printed SoAR		
3	<i>EU Advocacy preparation for the donor roundtable</i>	To Partners to meet 1) EU in Brussels; 2) France Development Agency 3) Germany-BMU and 4) Nordic Development Fund in Finland	25 June to 4 July	A detailed plan on the capitals visits, including names of representatives to meet		
				Confirmation of all meetings		
				Outcome captured		
4	Donor roundtable	The aim of the donor roundtable is to reach out to donors/partners to advocate and mobilize further resources for the operationalization of the AAI, in particular, the Technical Support Unit and the core activities of the AAI. The roundtable will also be used as a platform to launch the report on the State of Adaptation in Africa.	18 – 30 September UN HQ New-York	Logistical organization (Date, venue, programme)		
				Diplomatic process and invitation		
				Communication (Eg: update of website...)		
				Finalization of technical documents (SoAR, Road Map, Updated budget, Communications Strategy)		



## AAI PARTNERS STRATEGIC MEETING LIBREVILLE 27-28 MARCH 2018

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	ORGANISATION	POSITION	CONTACT EMAIL
ESAMBE NJUME	Gerald	AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK	Climate Change Specialist	<a href="mailto:g.esambenjume@afdb.org">g.esambenjume@afdb.org</a>
OUSMAN JARJU	Pa	GREEN CLIMATE FUND	Director of Country Programming	<a href="mailto:pjarju@gcfund.org">pjarju@gcfund.org</a>
MUKABANA	Joseph	AFRICAN MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON METEOROLOGY	Director	<a href="mailto:jmukabana@wmo.int">jmukabana@wmo.int</a>
YAKA	Pascal	GLOBAL FRAMEWORK FOR CLIMATE SERVICES	Regional Coordinator	<a href="mailto:pascal.yaka@gmail.com">pascal.yaka@gmail.com</a>
OLINGA	Rostand	INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT	Country Program officer	<a href="mailto:j.olingabiwole@ifad.org">j.olingabiwole@ifad.org</a>
BALAGHI	Riad	ADAPTATION OF AFRICAN AGRICULTURE	Head Department, Agronomy and Agricultural Machinery	<a href="mailto:riad.balaghi@gmail.com">riad.balaghi@gmail.com</a>
HOUANYE	Armand	GLOBAL WATER PARTNERSHIP	Technical Advisor for Water, Climate and Development Programme (WACDEP)	<a href="mailto:armand.houanye@gwpao.org">armand.houanye@gwpao.org</a>
WHANDE	Webster	South South North	Director	<a href="mailto:wwhande@gmail.com">wwhande@gmail.com</a>
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## **Annex 2 – Report of the High-Level Partners Roundtable**

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24<sup>th</sup> September 2018

### **Meeting report**

#### **Outcomes and key messages**

In her opening remarks, the African Union Commissioner for Rural Economy and Agriculture, H.E. Josefa Leonel Corre Sacko, stressed the critical importance of climate adaptation in Africa. She highlighted how climate change affects the most important and productive sectors of Africa's economies (such as food production) and therefore contributes to increased poverty and mass migration. She stressed that climate change represents a security threat for Africa.

As the UNDP Administrator stressed in his opening remarks, however, African governments are already spending deeply on climate adaptation: "Africa is already investing well over 2 per cent of its GDP, that is our estimate, in adaptation. That's 10 times the ODA (Overseas Development Assistance) that is coming to the continent!" And despite this heavy commitment by African states, the continent still has an adaptation finance gap that ranges from 40% to 80%. Addressing this adaptation gap is one of the fundamental goals of the AAI.

Very strong messages of support for the AAI and its work were recorded from all side. According to H.E. the AU Commissioner, "the AAI, represents an opportunity for Africa to achieve agenda 2063". The Minister of Environment for Rwanda, H.E. Vincent Biruta, stated with directness that "The Africa Adaptation Initiative is critical for our continent for a number of reasons".

H.E. Patricia Espinosa, the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), also strongly supported the initiative, saying "we at UN Climate Change [the UNFCCC] support this initiative, we are absolutely conscious, and we try to gather as much support as possible for adaptation". Ms Espinosa also highlighted the challenge in galvanising proper adaptation funding, and encouraged the AAI to continue its efforts and forge partnerships.

#### ***Ownership by Africa governments***

One of the key strengths of the AAI is that it is owned and driven by African peoples and governments. "The initiative is both for and relevant to Africans themselves, and therefore strives to make a difference in the lives of many people", said UNFCCC Executive Secretary Patricia Espinosa.

#### ***Leadership by Gabon and African governments***

Many partners commended the Gabonese Republic, and in particular, H.E. Ali Bongo Ondimba, President and Head of State, for the strong leadership he has demonstrated in his capacity as the CAHOSCC Chair and the AAI Champion. Partners congratulated Gabon and all African governments for taking the bold step together to establish and support the AAI, and for demonstrating their leadership on climate change. This is much needed, not least because "Africa is one of the most affected, most vulnerable continents" to climate change (Mme. Espinosa).

### ***Partnerships are crucial if AAI is to succeed***

Governments cannot deliver on the climate agenda alone. Strong and broad-based partnerships will be essential if the initiative is to succeed and achieve its intended goals. Mr. Pierre Guislain, Vice President of the African Development Bank (AfDB), underlined that “the AAI is a partnership effort. African partnership and international partnership is the only way we will be able to manage this [climate change] agenda!”. The theme of partnership was echoed by Ms. Espinosa: “we need innovative solutions from businesses, investors, state and non-state actors, and from everyday people”.

### ***Scaling up of adaptation action in Africa***

The AAI represents an opportunity to scale up successful initiatives in the continent and develop new initiatives, a fact fully appreciated by partners. According to Norbert Gorissen, Head of Division in the German Ministry of Environment, Germany “fully supports the aim of scaling up adaptation action and reducing the vulnerability of African countries to climate change. Germany is looking forward to engaging with the Africa Adaptation Initiative to foster synergies across existing activities and develop new ideas”.

### ***Balance between mitigation and adaptation***

The current imbalance in climate finance between adaptation and mitigation was highlighted by Kulthoum Motsumi, the AAI Coordinator. More than 70% of all climate finance is in mitigation, while only a mere 16% goes to adaptation. According to Rwandan Environment Minister H.E. Vincent Biruta, the AAI therefore presents an opportunity “to swing the balance in the right direction and ensure resources are going to where they are needed most!”

### ***Investment in climate information services and infrastructure***

A crucial starting point for addressing climate adaptation in Africa is reducing the gap in climate information services and infrastructure – another of the AAI’s priorities. This will have a beneficial impact on numerous sectors, including agriculture, public safety, transport, energy, health. The approach was supported by Mr. Petteri Taalas, the World Meteorological Organisation Director General, who stressed that “one very powerful way to adapt to climate change is to invest in early warning services, weather, climate, and water”.

### ***Overall support for the AAI and new entry points***

The AAI gained broad support from numerous partners at the Round Table. The Rwandan Environment Minister fully supported the initiative, noting that it is “critical for our continent!”. He further wished “to encourage partners, friends, and supporters to join the Initiative. Rwanda is fully committed and ready to play its part to ensure the Africa Adaptation Initiative reaches its full potential.” H.E. Patricia Espinosa underlined that she “will also take the opportunity to promote this Initiative as speak to groups throughout the world”.

*Specific entry points identified by partners-*

- The Government of India pledged significant financial support to the AAI in the area of early warning systems with Gabon;
- The Adaptation Fund Secretariat indicated their interest to partner with the AAI, particularly with their Readiness Programme. “The Readiness Programme of the Adaptation Fund provides an excellent fit for a collaboration with the Africa Adaptation Initiative. The partnership will better support African countries strengthening their institutional capacities to attract climate finance and design and implement actions to address the adverse effects of climate change” (Mr. Farayi Onias Madziwa);
- Germany expressed their interest in “engaging with the Africa Adaptation Initiative to foster synergies across existing activities and develop new ideas” (Mr. Norbert Gorissen)
- Support also came from all lead organisations of the four AAI flagship programmes for Africa. This includes the following:
  - The AfDB, through the Africa Programme on climate services for adaptation and resilience
  - The Lake Chad River Basin Commission, through developing an early warning system for the Lake Chad River Basin
  - The African Risk Capacity, through advancing risk transfer in Africa
  - UNDP and the Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI) on the knowledge management programme for adaptation planning in Africa. UNDP further undertook to make precise its support by the end of 2018.

The AAI will work with its partners to ensure that the political commitments and pledges made at the roundtable are translated into concrete action. The AAI is also moving forward with further stakeholder consultations and the State of Adaptation Report with a view to scaling up efforts in 2019.

## List of participants

	<b>Name</b>	<b>Organisation and Title</b>
1	H.E. Josefa Leonel Corre Sacko	African Union Commissioner for the Environment
2	H.E. Mr Achim Steiner	United Nations Development Programme, Administrator
3	H.E., Ruchi Ghanashyam	Vice Minister of External Affairs, India
4	H.E. Arlette Soudan-Nonault	Minister of Environment, Congo - on behalf of the Congo Basin Initiative
5	H.E. Nasser Bourita	Minister of Foreign Affairs, Morocco - on behalf of the Adaptation of African Agriculture Initiative (AAA)
6	H.E. Vincent Biruta	Minister of Environment, Rwanda
7	Mr Issifi Boureima	Special adviser of President of Niger - on Behalf of Sahel Commission
8	H.E. Ambassador Wael AbouIdmagd	Deputy Assistant Minister for Environment and Sustainable Development, Egypt and Chair of the G77 and China Group on Climate Negotiations.
9	Mr Zaheer FAKIR	Head International Relations and Governance, Department of Environmental Affairs, South Africa
10	Mr Pierre GUISLAIN	African Development Bank, Vice President for Infrastructure and Private Sector
11	H.E. Ms. Patricia ESPINOSA	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Executive Secretary
12	H.E. Mr Petteri TAALAS	World Meteorological Organisation, Secretary General
13	H.E. Ambassador Seyni Nafo	African Group of Negotiators, Coordinator of African initiatives
14	Mr Mohamed BÉAVOGUI	African Risk Capacity, Director-General
15	H.E. Ambassador Mamman Nuhu	Chad Lake Basin Commission, Executive Secretary,
16	Mr Mana Boubakari	Chad Lake Basin Commission, Technical Director
17	Mr Manish Bapna	World Resource Institute, Executive Vice President and Managing Director
18	Mr Farayi Madziwa	Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat, Programme Officer Climate Finance Readiness
19	Mr Koen Vervaeke	European External Action Service (EEAS), Managing Director for Africa
20	Mr David Thomas	Africa Business Magazine, Deputy Editor
21	H.E. Régis Immoungault	Minister of Foreign Affairs, Gabon
22	Tanguy Gahouma	National Climate Council, Gabon, Secretary General
23	Stanislas Mouba	National Climate Council, Gabon, Adviser
24	Sonia Olendo	Diplomatic Counsellor, Gabon
25	Stephen Jackson	UN Resident Coordinator, Gabon
26	Kulthoum Omari Motsumi	AAI Coordinator
27	Bruk Tekie	Consultant
28	Franca Cossu	Consultant