

Adaptation

Climate Change Adaptation in Africa

Welcome to Adaptation Africa, a quarterly news and events bulletin from the Climate Change Adaptation in Africa (CCAA) program

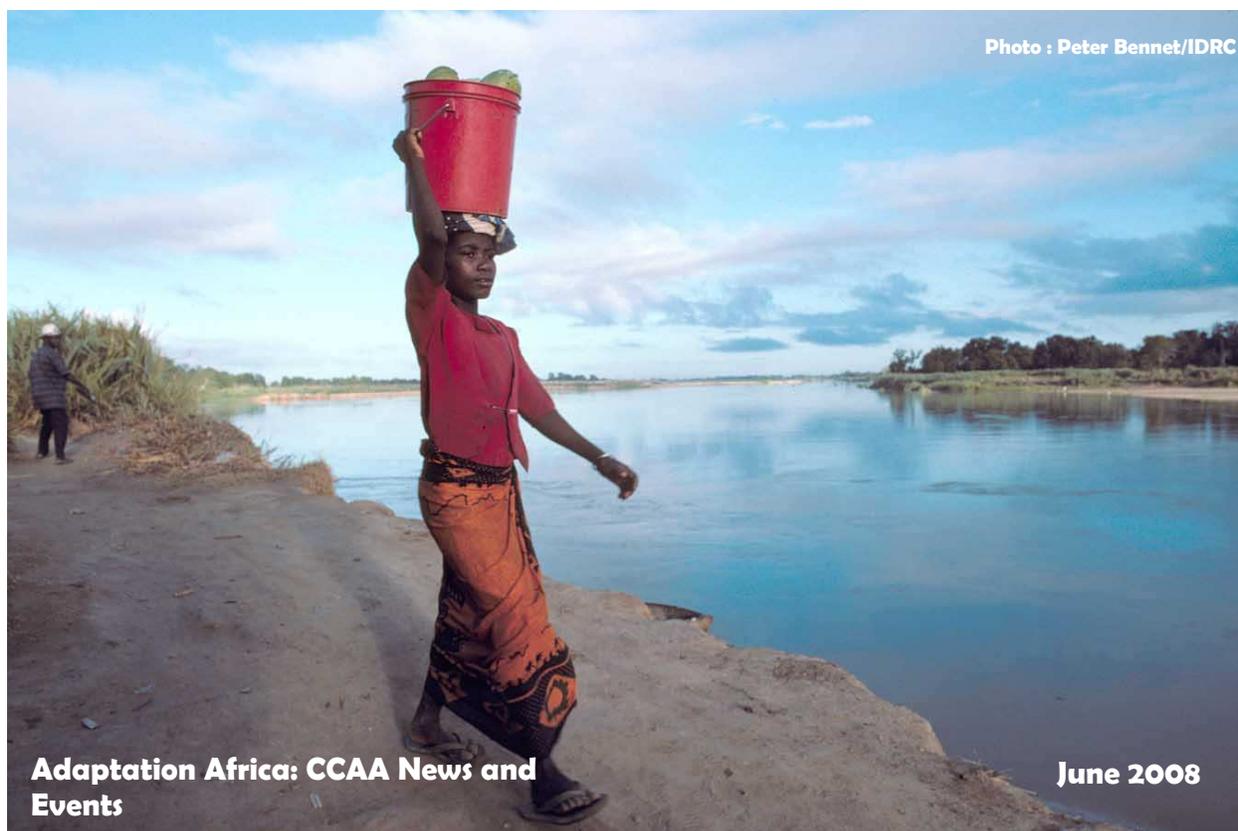


Photo : Peter Bennet/IDRC

**Adaptation Africa: CCA News and
Events**

June 2008

Contents

1. CCAA program news
2. Events
3. Calls for papers and proposals
4. Project news
5. New resources

1. CCAA program news

New Chair appointed for CCAA Advisory Board

From its launch in 2006, the CCAA program has been guided by an Advisory Board comprised of African regional experts and representatives of the program's donors, IDRC and DFID. At its most recent meeting, the Advisory Board selected Mbareck Diop to replace University of Nairobi Professor Shem Wandiga, who this spring completed a two-year term as Chair. Staff and Advisors expressed their warm appreciation to Prof Wandiga for his contributions to the program.

http://www.idrc.ca/ev_en.php?ID=127018_201&ID2=DO_TOPIC

Vice-Chair Balgis Osman Elasha wins 'Champions of the Earth 2008' award

<http://www.scidev.net/en/news/sudanese-climate-scientist-receives-prestigious-aw.html>

(Article available in English only)

New Program Officer joins CCAA staff in Dakar

The CCAA program is pleased to welcome Dr Henri Lo as a Program Officer with IDRC's Regional Office for West and Central Africa. Dr Lo is a geographer and, most recently, a lecturer at the Université Cheikh Anta Diop in Dakar. He brings over twenty years of experience working on environmental issues, notably in forestry and water resource management. Dr Lo, who is expected to join IDRC in July, will enhance the team's strengths in developing and mentoring participatory action research.

Support for African participation in adaptation events

To increase regional capacity on adaptation, the CCAA program provides financial assistance to institutions that facilitate African attendance at relevant regional and international events.

Following a call for applications advertised in April 2008, 12 events were selected for support from a total of 53 applications received. Details on the selected applicants can be found at:

http://www.idrc.ca/ev_en.php?ID=122173_201&ID2=DO_TOPIC

2. Events

IDRC highlights adaptation challenges at Conférence de Montréal

June 10, Montreal - Salamatu Garba, Coordinator of the Women Farmers Advancement Network in Nigeria, and CCAA Program Officer Nathalie Beaulieu shared their views on what climate change means for Africa. The two presented on the panel "Coping with Climate Change: How the Vulnerable Must Adapt" hosted by IDRC at the International Economic Forum of the Americas, also known as the *Conférence de Montréal*.

http://www.idrc.ca/ev_en.php?ID=127019_201&ID2=DO_TOPIC

Addressing climate change impacts in Eastern and Southern Africa

June 6, Nairobi - Richard Odingo, Vice-chairman of the Inter-governmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), and Professor Laban Ogallo, Director of the IGAD Climate Prediction and Applications Centre (ICPAC), addressed a gathering at IDRC's Regional Office for Eastern and Southern Africa.

http://www.idrc.ca/ev_en.php?ID=127065_201&ID2=DO_TOPIC

Alexandria Conference – How do we measure progress in addressing climate change?

May 10-13, 2008, the evaluation office of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) hosted an international conference on evaluating climate change and development in Alexandria, Egypt. A number of CCAA team members actively contributed to conference preparations and presentations. The program also provided funding to increase African participation, and to ensure Conference outcomes are captured and shared in useful formats.

http://www.idrc.ca/ev_en.php?ID=127020_201&ID2=DO_TOPIC

3. Calls for papers and proposals

AERC seeks conference papers

The African Economic Research Consortium is organizing an International Conference on Natural Resource Management, Climate Change and Economic Development in Africa as part of twentieth anniversary activities. A call for papers on climate change and economic development can be found at:

<http://www.aercafrica.org/html/announcements2.asp?announcementid=91>

A call for papers on natural resource management and economic development can be found at:

<http://www.aercafrica.org/html/announcements2.asp?announcementid=90>

Papers should be submitted to the Director of Research, AERC, at nresource@ercafrica.org on or before August 15, 2008. The conference is scheduled for September 15-17, 2008 in Nairobi.

First call for expressions of interest: East and West Africa

The IDRC Think Tank Initiative invites applications from independent African organisations that are committed to using research to inform and influence social and economic policy. The Initiative will provide multi-year funding to promising think tanks, and will work with successful applicants to improve their organizational performance. For more details on the Initiative and the application process, visit www.idrc.ca/thinktank. Deadline: August 19, 2008

4. Project news

Update on African Climate Change Fellowships

In 2007, CCAA approved funding for a suite of fellowships to support early- to mid-career African professionals and researchers in pursuing advanced studies related to climate change and adaptation. Following a planning workshop held in Dar es Salaam in March 2008, some aspects of the program were modified, taking into account feedback from representatives of African universities and research institutions, project partners, and other key stakeholders. A call for applications is expected in August 2008.

http://www.idrc.ca/ev_en.php?ID=127022_201&ID2=DO_TOPIC

Water, health and climate change adaptation in Africa

The CCAA program and IDRC's Ecohealth program are jointly supporting a research and capacity-building initiative to explore the interconnections between water, health, and climate change. As of June 2008, four proposals had been approved.

http://www.idrc.ca/ev_en.php?ID=120851_201&ID2=DO_TOPIC

Climate change in Western Cape featured in South Africa's *Fruit Journal*

The June 2008 issue of South Africa's *Fruit Journal* features an article on climate change in the Western Cape by Professor Daan Louw, project leader of the CCAA-supported project "Managing Climate Risk in the Western Cape," and Dr Mac Callaway of the UNEP Risoe Centre. Access to the journal is by subscription only.

Research on rural-urban cooperation on water management launched in Burkina Faso

The Ouagadougou newspaper *L'Observateur Paalga* reported on the launch of the CCAA-supported project "Rural Urban Cooperation on Water Management in the Context of Climate Change in Burkina Faso" in its May 8, 2008 edition. The coverage can be found at:

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/200805090443.html>. (Report available in French only.) An abstract of the project can be found at:

http://www.idrc.ca/ev.php?ID=123141_201_104683&ID2=IDRC_ADM_INFO

5. New resources

Adaptation is...Protecting coastal communities in northern Morocco

An international research team led by Morocco's École nationale forestière d'ingénieurs is working in two neighbouring provinces to integrate a better understanding of climate change impacts within development plans and land use guidelines to meet the region's many competing needs. Read more at: http://www.idrc.ca/uploads/user-S/12136402061morocco_e.pdf

Climate risk training materials online

In 2007, CCAA hosted training workshops for researchers on integrated climate risk assessment. A workshop report and training manual can be found at:

http://www.idrc.ca/en/ev-126928-201-1-DO_TOPIC.html

Voices from Bali (video)

Hear from farmers and others working in rural Africa who took part in the CCAA-hosted dialogue "Adapting locally to global climate change - experiences from rural Africa" at COP 13 in Bali, Indonesia: http://www.idrc.ca/ccaa/ev-123177-201-1-DO_TOPIC.html

Adaptation resources online

The CCAA program web site now features a compendium of links to African and international sources for news and information on climate change and adaptation. Visit "External resources" at http://www.idrc.ca/ccaa/ev-125138-201-1-DO_TOPIC.html