

How you can get involved

1. Contribute to action research that equips vulnerable communities to adapt to climate change.
2. Contribute technical expertise to reviewing research concepts or developing capacity.
3. Take part in education and training activities that strengthen researchers and their institutions.
4. Share your organization's knowledge and experience of working on climate change adaptation.

The CCAA issues periodic calls for research proposals and for technical expertise. It supports activities to strengthen research capacity and to generate, manage and share knowledge on adaptation. Please check the CCAA Web site frequently for updates, calls for proposals, and announcements: www.idrc.ca/ccaa

We also welcome contact with other donors and organizations interested in adaptation, to explore synergies and ensure our efforts are informed and well targeted.

Contact us

Web: www.idrc.ca/ccaa
Email: ccaa@idrc.ca

Enquiries about the CCAA may also be directed to IDRC's regional offices in Africa or to its Canadian headquarters.

Nairobi:

IDRC Regional Office for Eastern and Southern Africa
Liaison House, 2nd and 3rd floors
State House Avenue
PO Box 62084
Nairobi, Kenya
Phone: (+254+20) 271-3160/61
Fax: (+254+20) 271-1063

Cairo:

IDRC Regional Office for the Middle East and North Africa
8 Ahmed Nessim St., 8th floor, Giza
PO Box 14 Orman, Giza
Dokki, Cairo
Egypt
Phone: (+20+2) 336-7051/52/53/54/57
Fax: (+20+2) 336-7056

Dakar:

IDRC Regional Office for West and Central Africa
Rue de Saint-Louis, angle de l'avenue Cheikh Anta Diop,
Point E
BP 11007 PEYTAVIN
Dakar, Senegal
Phone: (+221) 864-0000
Fax: (+221) 825-3255

Ottawa:

IDRC
250 Albert Street
PO Box 8500
Ottawa, Ontario
Canada
K1G 3H9
Phone: +(613) 236-6163
Fax: +(613) 567-7749

Adaptation

Climate Change Adaptation in Africa

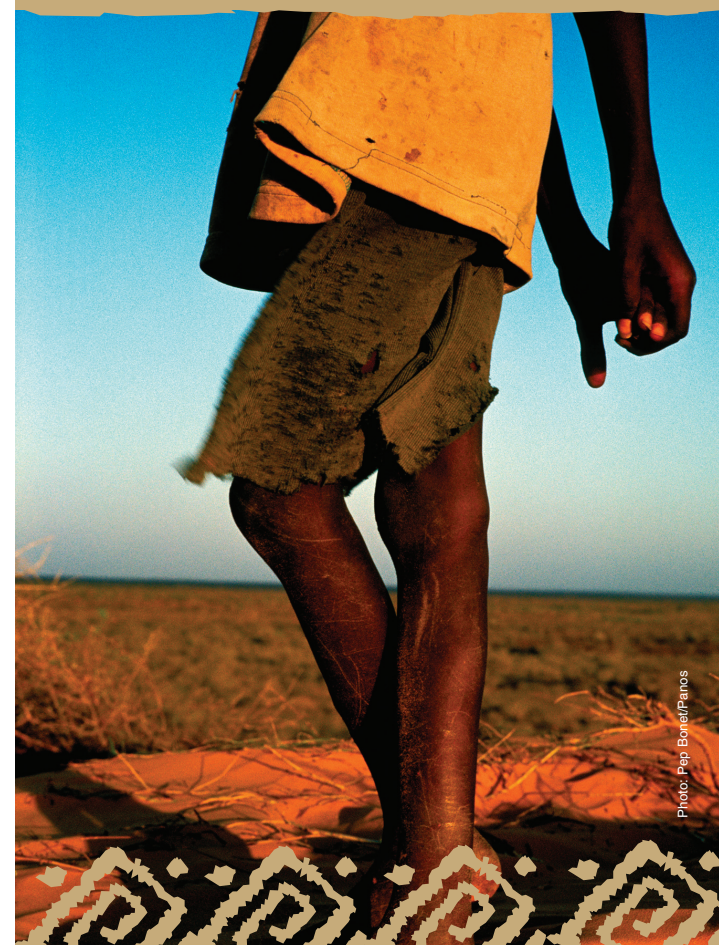


Photo: Pep Borel/Panos

Climate Change Adaptation in Africa

The **Climate Change Adaptation in Africa (CCAA)** research and capacity development program aims to improve the capacity of African people and organizations to adapt to climate change in ways that benefit the most vulnerable. Building on existing initiatives and past experience, the CCAA program will work to establish a self-sustained, skilled body of expertise in Africa.

The CCAA is a joint program of Canada's International Development Research Centre (IDRC) and the United Kingdom's Department for International Development (DFID).

What is at stake?

Many parts of Africa already experience highly variable rainfall and other climate extremes. Africans have developed coping strategies to deal with this variability, but the ability of African institutions and people to adapt to climate change impacts expected over the next 20 to 30 years is limited by widespread poverty, fragile ecosystems, weak institutions, and other factors. It is the poor who have the least capacity to adapt, and are the most vulnerable to climate change.

Climate change is expected to compound the many development challenges confronting the African continent. Food and water security, shelter and livelihoods, the spread of vector-borne diseases, and population migration are all affected by climate change. Some impacts, caused by past emissions of greenhouse gases, will be inevitable in Africa over the next 30 years, regardless of global efforts to limit emissions.

The CCAA program responds to the urgent need to help the poorest cope with climate variability and change, building on the experience and efforts of Africa's people and organizations.



Photo: Joachim Voss, IDRC

Program objectives

The CCAA aims to *significantly improve the capacity of African people and organizations to adapt to climate change in ways that benefit the most vulnerable*. Four objectives support this purpose:

1. To strengthen the capacity of African researchers, development agents and policy-makers to contribute to adaptation to climate change.
2. To support adaptation by rural and urban people, particularly the most vulnerable, through action research.
3. To generate a better shared understanding of the findings of scientists and research institutes on climate variability and change.
4. To inform policy processes with good quality, science-based knowledge.

While working towards these objectives, the CCAA will engage research users from beginning to end. This approach promotes the use of indigenous knowledge, leads to better-defined research questions, and ensures that results and skills are shared with those who will use them.

Program strategies

The CCAA supports a range of activities that build research capacity and provide evidence to strengthen adaptation policies and plans. They can be divided into the three following general strategies:

1. Funding and mentoring for action research

The program supports action research on adaptation. Action research links communities, researchers, development agents and policymakers in a shared process of testing new and existing adaptation strategies. Research proposals are solicited and assessed through competitive processes.

2. Knowledge generation, management, and sharing

The CCAA supports a learning-by-doing approach. In addition to fostering research, the program supports the synthesis and publication of research findings and a range of communication and dissemination activities to see knowledge on adaptive practice shared widely.

3. Education and training

Participatory learning and formal education and training activities complement the program's research support and knowledge-sharing activities. Education and training will focus on areas such as basic concepts of climate change adaptation, action research methods, communicating research results, and research management.