

Update to FAO's Action Pledge 6 (April 2009):

Assistance to Nigeria in assessing adaptation requirements in the agriculture sector.

A request of the Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources of the Government of Nigeria was made to FAO for providing assistance in the assessment of the possible impacts of climate change on agriculture, Food Security and Environment in Nigeria with the objective to stimulate policy dialogue and response to the impact of climate change on these sectors. FAO build up a technical team with the aim to outline the climate variability and climate change impacts on agricultural production in the context of the various agro ecological zones of Nigeria. A preliminary mission was performed in September 2007 by a team of experts.

As a follow-up, the goal is now to incorporate Climate Change Adaptation into National Programme for Food Security (NPFS) to assist the Government of Nigeria to assess institutional and technical capacity building needs to address climate change adaptation issues as integral part of NPFS. The objectives are: (i) to identify potentially feasible strategies and options for small farmers to better adapt to climate variability and change; (ii) elaborate operational proposals how to promote their implementation in the context of the objective of NPFS (i.e. to assist farmers in achieving their potential for increasing output and productivity and consequently their incomes); and (iii) formulate a detailed workplan and budget.

A new field mission is now planned for May 2009 to address the following technical fields: agro-meteorology/climate information management, institutional analysis and adaptation planning, potential soil carbon sequestration linked to payments for environmental services (PES).