

# AFRICA ADAPTATION INITIATIVE

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*Accelerated Action on Adaptation and Implementing Approaches to Address Loss and Damage in Africa*

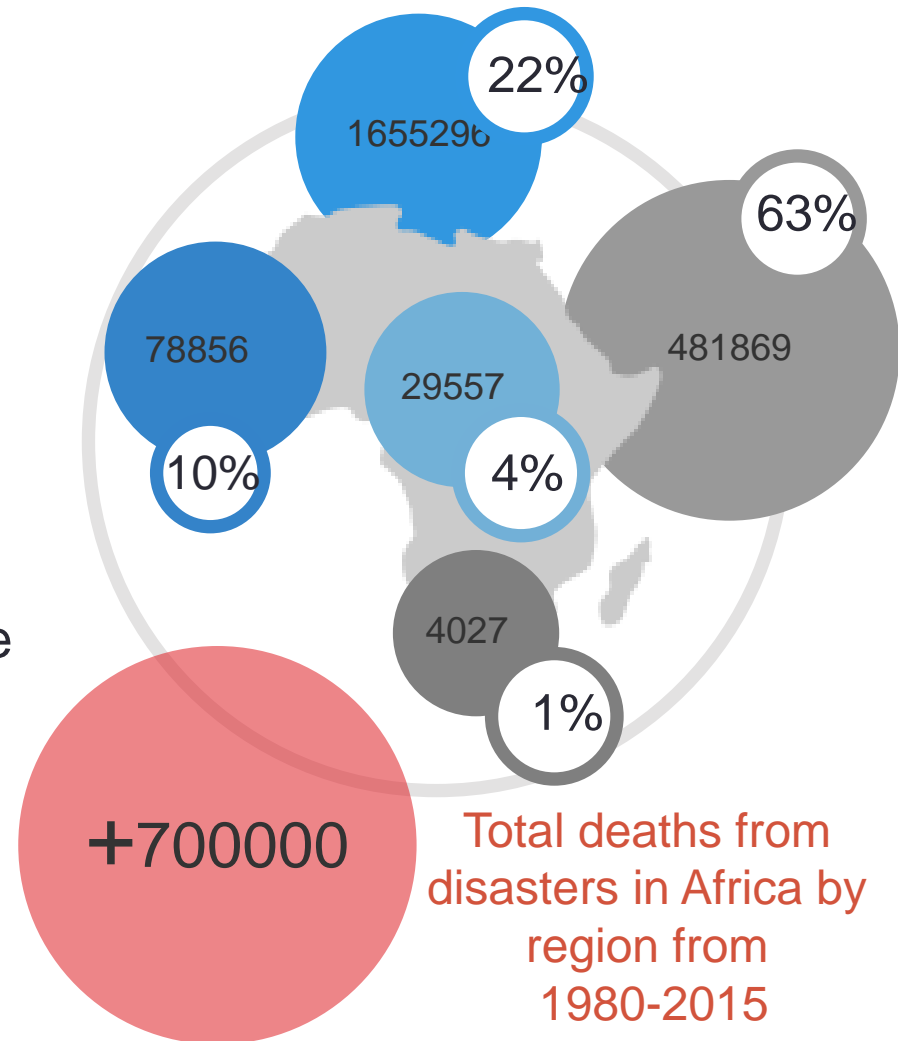
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5 September, 2016  
SCF Forum on Financial Tools to Address Loss and Damage  
Manila, Philippines



# Loss and Damage: The African context

- Historical emissions have led to 0.85°C warming (IPCC, 2015)
- As a result Africa is already experiencing significant consequences from the impacts of climate change according to the Fifth Assessment Report:
  - Temperatures rising faster than the global average
  - Reduction in precipitation in northern Africa and parts of southern Africa
  - Intensification of droughts in East and southern Africa
  - Amplification of existing water

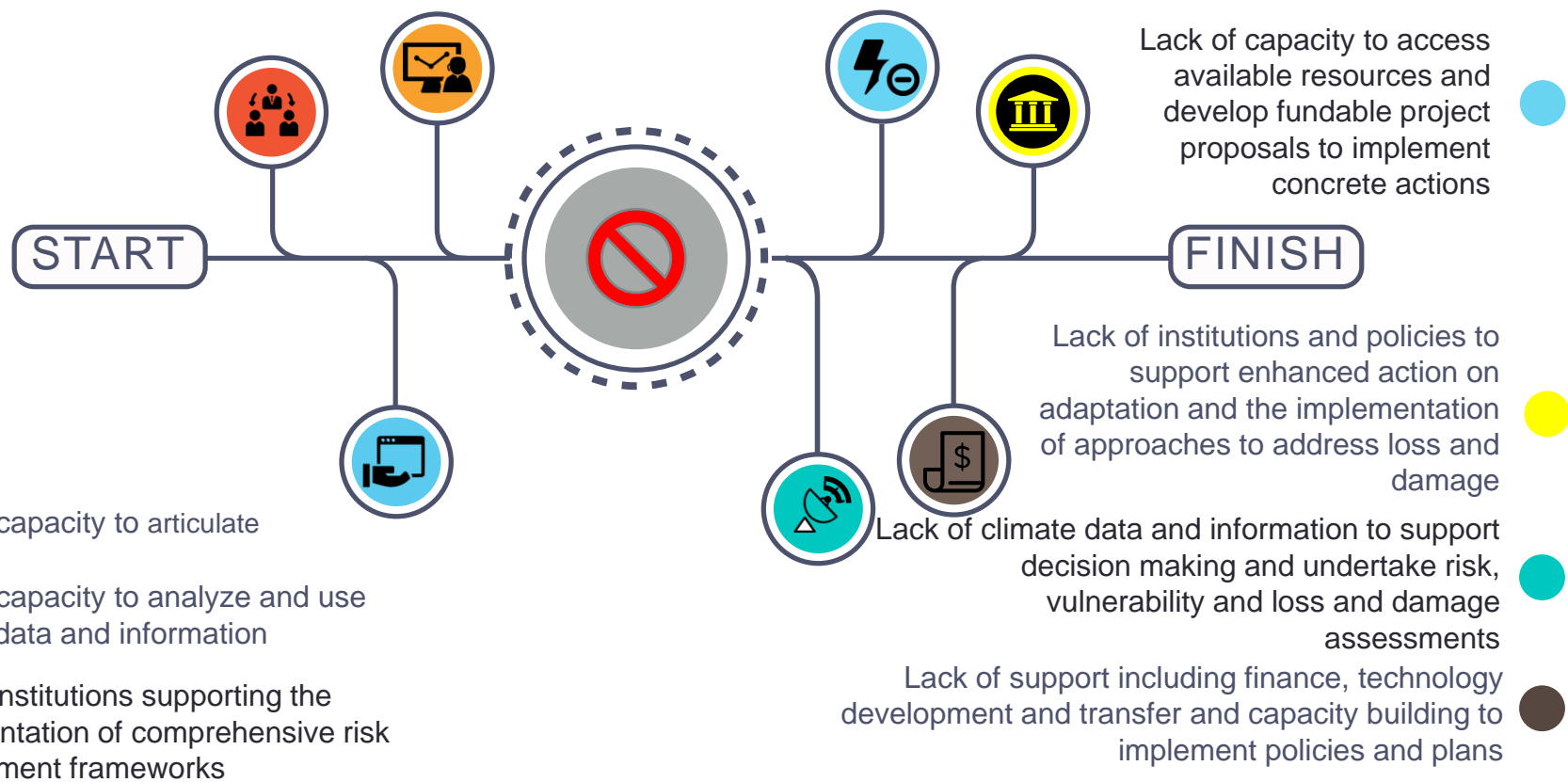


# Loss and Damage: The African context

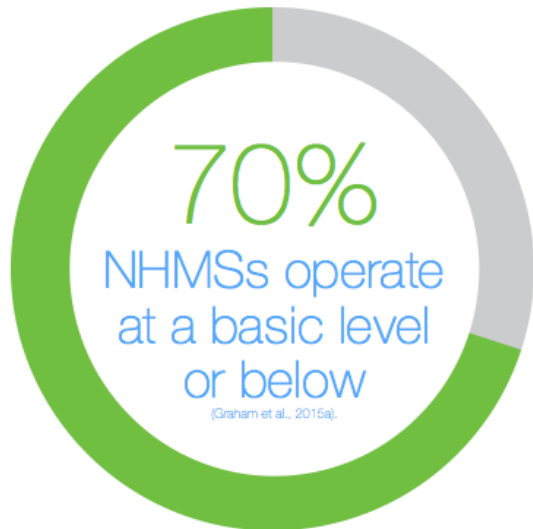
- Loss and damage is defined as the impacts of climate change that are not avoided by adaptation. Thus, adaptation plays a critical role in reducing future losses and damages.
- That said, under all mitigation and adaptation scenarios Africa will experience residual loss and damage:
  - Significant declines in agricultural production across the continent
  - Higher levels of undernourishment and lower levels of food security
  - The combined costs of adaptation and residual loss and damage will be equivalent to 1 percent of Africa's combined GDP by 2080 - significantly higher for higher warming scenarios (Schaeffer et al., 2014).

# Barriers to addressing loss and damage in Africa

- To develop and implement approaches to address loss and damage some barriers will need to be addressed including:



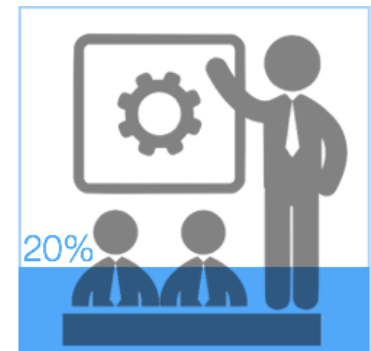
# Evidence . . .



ONE STATION PER 26,000 KM<sup>2</sup>

THE LAND-BASED  
OBSERVATIONAL NETWORK  
IS ONLY 1/8 OF THE  
MINIMUM DENSITY  
REQUIRED BY THE WMO  
(AMCOMET 2012)

Resolution of most global  
climate models (GCMs) in  
use in Africa is TOO LOW  
(Graham et al., 2015b)



Only 20% of  
climate data are used  
in decision making  
(Graham et al., 2015a)



NHMSs are not significantly involved  
in the development of some African  
National Adaptation Plans (NAPs)  
(Jones et al., 2015)

# Africa Adaptation Initiative



- The Africa Adaptation Initiative (AAI) was created in response to mandate by African Heads of State at the 25<sup>th</sup> African Union Summit in June 2015

*African Ministerial Conference on Environment (AMCEN) to develop with the African Group of climate change Negotiators (AGN) a proposal for enhanced support to Africa on adaptation and on loss and damage, in the context of the Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Green Climate Fund*



AMCEN

- AAI was formally launched at COP 21 in Paris by HE Abdelfateh Al-Sissi, the President of the Arab Republic of Egypt
- At the 26<sup>th</sup> African Union Summit in January 2016 a technical working group was established to guide the further development and operationalisation of AAI

# Overall approach

**Vision:** Enhance action on climate adaptation and addressing loss and damage in Africa through partnerships and coordinating with existing organisations working on the continent to reduce duplication and maximise efficiency.

## **Guiding principles:**

- Stakeholder-driven
- Ensuring relevance for Africa
- Supporting the implementation of national processes
- Promoting cooperation and collaboration
- Enhancing communication
- Developing partnerships with implementing partners
- Building on and partnering with existing initiatives, institutions and systems on the continent

# Implementing AAI

- To address the gaps and challenges and help African countries enhance adaptation and address loss and damage the AAI will focus on **four key areas**:

Pillar 1: Enhance climate and observational infrastructure, early warning systems and multi-decadal climate change projection systems to provide climate information services that support timely and informed decision-making.



Pillar 2: Support the development and implementation of national, regional policies and institutions to support efforts to enhance adaptation action and address



Pillar 3: Facilitate the implementation of specific projects on the ground to enhance adaptation action and address loss and damage by helping African countries access resources.



Pillar 4: Build the capacity of African countries to access resources, including through the GCF and mobilise additional resources through advocacy.





# Pillar 1: Enhancing Climate Information Services



Goal: To ensure that all African countries have adequate observational infrastructure, early warning systems and multi-decadal climate-change projection systems in place.

- Climate information services is the starting point not just for adaptation but also for developing robust policies to address loss and damage such as insurance and social protection mechanisms, among others. AAI will work with partners to support the following:
  - Observational infrastructure: Mobilise resources to support the installation and repair of equipment to provide meteorological and other climate relevant data.
  - Climate information services: Mobilise resources to support model development, regional downscaling and research.
  - Capacity building: Facilitate access to training for climate scientists, modelers and technicians.
  - Risk, vulnerability and loss and damage assessments: Facilitate access to support to undertake risk, vulnerability and loss and damage assessments.

## Pillar 2: Strengthening the institutional and policy frameworks



Goal: To create and strengthen continental, regional, sub-regional and national institutional and policy frameworks.

- Addressing loss and damage will require a spectrum of approaches from risk transfer to risk retention and recovery and rehabilitation support. The AAI will work with partners to:
  - Enhancing the engagement of African countries with the processes under the UNFCCC: Facilitate access to support the development and implementation of NAPs, INDCs and other mechanisms to both avoid and address loss and damage.
  - Development of national policies and institutions: Develop guidelines and a toolkit to help African countries strengthen policies and institutions and provide guidance to enhance understanding of how to implement approaches to address loss and damage within comprehensive risk management frameworks.
  - Sharing of best practices and experiences: Develop a platform for the sharing of experiences and lessons learned.

## Pillar 3: Concrete action on the ground



Goal: To develop concrete actions and implement concrete projects to enhance adaptation and address loss and damage.

- Implementing on the ground actions will require not just institutional frameworks but also support – including finance, technology development and transfer and capacity building. The AAI will work with partners to:
  - Identify and address gaps and challenges: Facilitate access to support to help African countries identify gaps and challenges to enhancing action to address loss and damage and help access readiness support to address them.
  - Capacity building: Build the capacity of African countries to access resources and develop fundable projects and programs through structured dialogues and regional workshops.
  - Project implementation: Advocate for increased resources to support the implementation of projects and programs to address loss and damage through high level political engagement to increase the profile of the importance of addressing loss and damage.

## Pillar 4: Climate finance and investments



Goal: To help African countries access various streams of GCF funding to enhance adaptation and implement approaches to address loss and damage.

- Facilitate access to increased finance: Increase advocacy at high levels to ensure that commitments are translated into concrete finance for African countries and develop a business case for investing in adaptation and approaches to address loss and damage.
- Technical guidance: Provide guidance to help African countries access support to implement approaches to address loss and damage.

# AAI Road to Marrakech: Next steps



December 2015 - AAI Launched in Paris

Structured dialogues with  
GCF (*October 2016*)

October

Donor roundtable  
Declaration of AAI  
Support by COP 22

November



September  
Summary of  
2ndTWG meeting

**AAI** framework  
and workplan  
launched in COP 22

Framework document  
& work plan  
(*End of September*)

Thank You

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**AAI**

Merci

Asante

Sana



**Africa Adaptation Initiative**