Ghana's National Climate Change Adaptation Strategy

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Outline

- Background
- National Climate Change Adaptation Strategy:
- Goal, Objectives, Strategies
- Criteria for prioritisation
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- Institutional Arrangements
- Challenges

Background

- Ghana's economy (agriculture, forestry) is highly sensitive to climate change and climate variability.
- 80% of disasters in Ghana is climate-related
- There is high vulnerability and low capacity of the populace, especially the poor
- Efforts to combat climate change are usually fragmented and done under emergency conditions.





Background

- Integrated and proactive approach is the surest way.
- Adaptation is a mechanism needed to manage risks, adjust development and reduce vulnerability of the economy.
- SNC is in the final stages with policy makers

What Is NCCAS?

- The National Climate Change Adaptation Strategy (NCCAS) focuses:
- Urgent, immediate and long term challenges based on historical climate data and longterm scenarios of the climate and economic development and a description of the likely resulting effects on natural systems.
- Provides a range of adaptation strategies
- Recommended measures to be taken to address long term climate impacts.

Goals of NCCAS

 The ULTIMATE GOAL of the National Climate Change Adaptation Strategy (NCCAS) is:

"To position Ghana to reduce the risks of climate change impacts and realize any opportunities that climate change provides for sustainable development."

The NCCAS also aims:

"To future-proof developments and to build resilience to climate change impacts now and in the future in order to reinforce and increase the capacity of the Ghanaian society and ecosystems to adapt to the impacts of climate change."

Objectives

- Improve societal awareness and preparedness for future climate change
- Enhance the mainstreaming of climate change into national development to reduce climate change risks
- Increase the robustness of infrastructure development and long-term investments;
- Enhance the adaptability of vulnerable ecological and social systems by increasing the flexibility and resilience of these systems;
- Avoid mal-adaptation by reversing the trends that increase vulnerability
- Foster competitiveness and promote technological innovation

Strategies For NCCAS

- Strategies that have been identified for increasing adaptation capacities include:
 - (i) increasing national awareness
 - (ii) mainstreaming climate change impacts and adaptation into sectoral policies, plans and programmes,

Strategies For NCCAS

- (iii) addressing long-term investments risks,
- (iv) coping with extreme weather events,
- (v) improving observation and early warning systems, (vi) strengthening the research and development base,
- (vii) enhancing partnership and international cooperation.

Criteria for Prioritisation

- The criteria for the selection and prioritization of the urgent adaptation interventions were developed during stakeholder consultation workshop. The five criteria include:
- a) Resilience of the adaptation intervention,
- b) Sustainable the intervention
- Potential for having multiplier effects (cobenefits) as a result of the implementation of the adaptation intervention,
- d) Extent of replicability of the intervention,
- e) Feasibility the whole intervention.

List of Priority Programmes

- Increasing resilience to climate change impacts: identifying and enhancing early warning systems
- ▶ Alternative livelihoods: minimizing impacts of climate change for the poor and vulnerable
- ▶ Enhance national capacity to adapt to climate change through improved land use management
- Adapting to climate change through enhanced research and awareness creation
- Development and implementation of environmental sanitation strategies to adapt to climate change
- Managing water resources as climate change adaptation to enhance productivity and livelihoods
- Minimizing climate change impacts on socio-economic development through agricultural diversification
- Minimizing climate change impacts human health through improved access to healthcare
- Demand- and supply-side measures for adapting the national energy system to impacts of climate change
- Adaptation to climate change: sustaining livelihoods through enhanced fisheries resource management

Institutional Arrangements

- National :
- Ministry of Environment, Science and Tech (MEST);
- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
- National Climate Change Committee (NCCC)
- Local:
- District Assemblies

Policy Level

- MEST:
- Establish the institutional mechanism to implement the National Climate Change Adaptation Strategy
- Liaise with the National Development Planning Commission to mainstream the Adaptation Strategy into national development planning processes
- Coordinate the efforts of the other
 Government agencies, the private sector and civil society organizations.

Policy Level

- Ensure that the programmes/ projects under the strategy are in line with sectoral government policies and strategies
- Supervise, monitor and evaluate the performance of the strategy.

Implementation

- **EPA**:
- Operates at national and regional levels
- Coordinates activities of various inventory and vulnerability assessment teams
- Implements programmes and projects

Local Level

- District Assemblies:
- Crucial level for implementation of the strategy
- Preparation of district climate change adaptation programmes and projects

Challenges

- Capacity building: institutional, human resources, and legal framework
- Inter sectoral cooperation for implementation
- Climate change budgeting and funding
- Strengthening of District Assembly Environmental Committee

Outstanding Work

V and A in other relevant sectors such as tourism

THANK YOU