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Integrating Climate Change Adaptation into Development

**UNFCCC African Regional Workshop
on Adaptation in Accra, Ghana**

September 21-23, 2006



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Why is USAID promoting climate change adaptation?

- **Many developing country economies are climate sensitive**
- **Climate change links several development challenges:**
 - energy for development
 - agriculture/food security
 - poverty reduction
 - public health





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USAID activities in Climate Change Adaptation

- 1. Pilot studies for integrating adaptation into planning**
- 2. Guidance manual for adaptation**



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Pilot studies

- 1. Mali: rice and potato production in Sikasso region**
- 2. South Africa: municipal water sources**
- 3. Honduras: coastal zone development**
- 4. Thailand: seasonal wetlands**



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Mali Situation: Rice and potato production is vulnerable to climate change

1. **1° C temperature rise by 2030;
2-3° C rise by 2060**
2. **Decreasing length of rainy
season**
3. **Greater seasonal variability of
rainfall**





Impacts of climate change:

1. **Greater seasonal drought risk in rice and maize production**
2. **Increased runoff from greater storm intensity**
3. **Higher temperatures negatively impacting cool-season potato production**





Adaptation recommendations

1. Drought avoidance

- short duration crop varieties
- new drought-tolerant varieties
- increase rainfall capture



2. Mitigation for increased temperatures

- more heat-tolerant crops, possibly moving out of potato



Adaptation recommendations

3. Reversing degradation of natural resource base

- agroforestry
- soil fertility enhancement

4. Better access to seasonal climate forecasts

- farmer access to 10-day forecasts and seasonal projections





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Sikasso, Mali

How can Mali use the adaptation recommendations?

- **Improvements in the seed sector**
- **Enhanced access to credit for crop storage, fertilizers, and irrigation**
- **NRM management and crop/agroforestry diversification**
- **Integration of long-term weather forecasts into local-access media**





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South Africa Situation: Polokwane Water Supply from Oliphants Basin

To review vulnerability, South African organizations, analyzed:

1. Population/water demand scenarios (4) through 2050
2. Climate change scenarios
3. Impacts of climate on supply, demand, and yield





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South Africa Situation: Vulnerability of the Polokwane Water Supply from Oliphants Basin

The issue is that water demand may triple by 2050 creating a vulnerability - insufficient water supply due to:

- **Population growth**
 1. **Competing water demand from industry and for environmental protection**
 2. **Climate change**





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South Africa Situation: Polokwane Water Supply from Oliphants Basin

Climate models all show increased temperatures for the region, but disagree on precipitation.

- A number of the models project increased summer precipitation
- Many project a decrease in winter precipitation
- An overall reduction in precipitation is projected by some models
- We cannot conclude if the region will get wetter or drier on the whole
- Precipitation intensity is likely to increase, which will increase risk of flooding.



Scenarios for 2050

Scenario	S01	S02	S03
Change in Precipitation (%)	+ 25	+10	-10
Change in Temperature (C)	1.9	2.2	2.8

Scenarios for 2025

Scenario	S04	S05	S06
Change in Precipitation (%)	+ 12.5	+5	-5
Change in Temperature (C)	0.5	1	1.2



Adaptation recommendations

- Runoff is very sensitive to changes in precipitation.
- If conditions become drier, reservoirs become a lot less effective
 - Conservation will be needed even more than it is today
- If conditions become wetter, flooding can be a problem
 - More reservoirs may be needed to capture the runoff
- Government officials feel the best adaptation to climate change is to re-emphasize conservation although modifications in water supply systems could also be considered



Adaptation recommendations

- **Water conservation**
 - reduced leakage and pressure
 - technologies for increased water use efficiency
 - institutional changes to improve demand management
- **Expanded water use**
 - reuse and recycling



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For further information

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