

CALL FOR INPUT

ON

ACHIEVING THE BELÉM MISSION TO 1.5^c

A CASE STUDY OF NIGERIA

TITLE:

NIGERIA'S NATIONAL ADAPTATION PLAN

BY

ASABE SHEHU YAR'ADUA FOUNDATION (ASYARFS)

The phenomenon of climate change is staring everyone in the face, and actions to handle its impacts have become far more critical than before. It is thus becoming an issue of Grave significance. It is as described by the United Nations General Secretary “a clear and present danger.” The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) recognizes adaptation as a critical option that countries should pursue to reduce the impacts of the change. At its 17th session, the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the Convention acknowledged that national adaptation planning can enable all developing countries to assess their vulnerabilities, mainstream climate change risks, and address their adaptation needs. At COP 16 in Cancun, the UNFCCC came up with the Cancun Adaptation Framework to support the efforts of developing country Parties to developing and implementing effective National Adaptation Plans (NAPs). This is what Nigeria is benefiting from to reshape its adaptation efforts.

The implementation of the NAP Framework has helped to achieve the adaptation component of Nigeria's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) that was submitted to the UNFCCC and Will continue to address the impacts of climate change in the country.

Adaptation is required for all countries of the world as the growing changes in climate continue to produce adverse impacts on environmental and socioeconomic systems. Adapting to climate change implies adapting to the occurrence of more frequent and more intense natural hazards. Most countries, particularly developing ones, are challenged in terms of the planning, depth, and coordination of their adaptation actions. The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) has sought through the Cancun Adaptation Framework (CAF) to enhance the capability of developing country Parties to the Convention to address adaptation within their countries. The objective of the CAF is to enhance actions on adaptation to reduce vulnerabilities and build resilience in developing countries, considering the urgent and immediate needs of those countries that are particularly vulnerable.

Nigeria is vulnerable to climate change. Under the A2 Scenario of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's (IPCC's) Emissions Report (National Adaptation Strategy and Plan of Action on Climate Change for Nigeria [NASPA-CCN], 2011), it is projected that Nigeria will experience a temperature increase of 0.04°C per year from about 1981/2000 until the 2046/2065 period, rising to 0.08°C per year after 2050. The scenario also projects wetter

conditions in the southern part of the country and drier conditions in the northern part. The drier conditions are expected to be most severe in the north-eastern part of the country. For the 2046/2065 period, rainfall is projected to increase by an average of 15 cm annually in the south. It will, however, decrease at an average rate of 7.5 cm annually in the north (NASPA-CCN 2011, p 10). The impact of these changes without adaptation could cost between 6% and 30% of Nigeria's GDP by 2050, amounting to between USD 100 billion and USD 460 billion (Department for International Development [DFID] 2009, p. 41).

The Government of Nigeria, in its continued effort to address the challenges of adaptation to climate change, received the support of the NAP Global Network to prepare its National Adaptation Plan (NAP) Framework. This is to facilitate the management of the medium- and long-term adaptation needs of the country in a coherent and coordinated manner. The purpose of this report is to provide a framework for Nigeria to guide it in developing, coordinating, and implementing the various policies, plans, strategies, and legislation that will enable it to address its adaptation needs. Specifically, the objectives of the NAP Framework are to:

- Clarify the country's approach to its NAP process. This includes articulating the country's vision of climate change adaptation, its adaptation objectives, the principles that will guide adaptation actions, roles and responsibilities among relevant stakeholders. It is also a reference point for bringing together various adaptation planning efforts from different sectors and scales of decision making (i.e., national, states, and local governments).
- Align the NAP process with existing policies (e.g., Economic Recovery & Growth Plan [ERGP], NASPA-CCN, National Climate Change Policy Response and Strategy [NCCPRS]), strategies, and adaptation research.
- Focus on specific themes that are particularly relevant and/or unique to Nigeria's context.

The key elements of the NAP process include:

1. Building appropriate capacity for adaptation action;
2. Defining adaptation options at the various levels of governance;
3. Creating an enabling environment for effective adaptation;
4. Designing a coherent approach to fund mobilization for effective climate change adaptation;
5. Developing suitable strategies for engaging the private sector;
6. Developing effective communication strategies in the various phases of the adaptation process; and
7. Developing an effective monitoring and evaluation plan to facilitate implementation

Nigeria's vulnerability to climate change

Climate change is a reality in Nigeria as elsewhere in the world. It is manifesting in various ways, including the increased severity and frequency of extreme events such as floods, droughts, and heat waves. Climate scenarios for the country suggest a significantly warmer climate in the future. Under the A21 scenario of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)'s Emissions Report, it is projected that Nigeria will experience a temperature increase of 0.04°C per year from about 1981/2000 until the 2046/2065 period, rising to 0.08°C per year after 2050 (Abiodun et al., 2011). The same scenario also suggests a wetter south and a drier north, especially in the northeast. For the 2046/2065 period, the projected changes in rainfall range from an average increase of 15 cm annually in the south to an average decrease of 7.5 cm annually in the north. According to the representative concentration pathways (RCPs 4.5 8.5), the chances of increases in precipitation up to the year 2070 in all parts of Nigeria are very high (Federal Ministry of Environment [FME], 2018). In terms of agro-ecological zones, the southern part of Nigeria, which is abundant in mangroves and rainforest, could experience an increase in

mean annual precipitation change of less than 5% from 2050 to 2070 under RCP4.5, and under RCP8.5, the change could exceed 5% in 2070 (FME, 2018).

The impacts of the changes in climate include loss of life and properties, as well as damages to socioeconomic infrastructures and ecological systems (Bouwer, 2019). Climate change is also exacerbating communal conflicts as biodiversity resources, including freshwater, become scarce, especially in marginal areas of the country (Akpodiogaga & Odjugo, 2010; Osuafor & Nnorom, 2014). Furthermore, the phenomenon poses significant threats to the country's food security. In monetary terms, climate change impacts could cost the country between 6% and 30% of its GDP by 2050, worth between USD 100 billion and USD 460 billion (DFID, 2009). The 2012 floods, for example, cost the country NGN 2.6 trillion (USD 17.3 billion). As DFID (2009 p. 41) starkly puts it:

The Need for a Structured Climate Change Adaptation in Nigeria

Nigeria's National Adaptation Strategy and Plan of Action on Climate Change (NASPA-CCN) (Building Nigeria's Response to Climate Change [BNRCC] Project, 2011) was developed with the vision of reducing the country's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change and enhancing the resilience of its ecological and economic systems. The NASPA-CCN document contains an analysis of the current and future scenarios of climate change in the country, as well as a wide range of strategies to address specific adaptation challenges in the different sectors of the country's economy including agriculture (crops and livestock), freshwater resources, water resources and fisheries, coastal ecosystems, forests, and biodiversity. The document elaborately enunciated the potentials of adaptation as a channel for managing the several critical challenges of climate change in the different sectors of the country's economy. Some other documents also underscore the significance of adaptation in Nigeria's development. The National Agricultural Resilience Framework (NARF) (2015), for example, devoted a chapter to the role of and need for mainstreaming adaptation into Nigeria's agricultural sector.

Purpose and Objectives of the NAP Process

The NAP process is an international initiative established under the Cancun Adaptation Framework (CAF). It results from the realization of the fragmented nature of adaptation under UNFCCC and the need to make it cohesive (Ndoko, 2015). The NAP process enables countries to identify medium- and long-term adaptation needs and develop, implement, and monitor strategies to address those needs (UNFCCC, n.d.) in a coherent manner. The two broad objectives of the NAP process (decision 5/CP.17 page paragraph 1) are to (UNFCCC, 2011):

1. Reduce vulnerability to the impacts of climate change by building adaptive capacity and resilience.
2. Facilitate the integration of climate change adaptation, in a coherent manner, into relevant new and existing policies, programs, and activities, in particular development planning processes and strategies, within all relevant sectors and at different levels, as appropriate.

Status of Adaptation Efforts

There are many activities currently being implemented (or recently completed) in the areas of research, planning, and implementation in climate change adaptation for Nigeria. A lot of information is now available on the current and future scenarios of climate change in the country and the potential impacts of climate change with possible adaptation implications (e.g., Adejuwon, 2005, 2006; Ayinde et al., 2011; Ishaya & Abaje, 2008;). In addition, many of Nigeria's MDAs have access to and an understanding of relevant national policy documents that can directly or otherwise drive adaptation programs. Several civil society organizations (CSOs) and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), as well as members of academia, have been or are involved in various ways in climate actions and development initiatives

that support the NAP process. Despite this, the NAP process in the country remains largely uncoordinated and incoherent.

Engaging MDAs in Implementing the NAP Process

Climate change affects every sector of the economy. As such, each one must be a part of the response. It is, therefore, logical to recognize and strengthen the MDAs of government as key nodes in the adaptation efforts while recognizing their interconnected and overlapping areas of focus.

In pursuing the sectoral approach to climate change management, the government supports an Inter-Ministerial Committee on Climate Change (ICCC), which works with the DCC on various aspects of climate change programming, including adaptation (DCC, n.d.b). ICCC oversees interagency coordination on climate change. For instance, in implementing Nigeria's first Biennial Update Report (Federal Government of Nigeria, 2018), the Inter-Ministerial Committee

Leveraging the Private Sector and Non-Governmental Organizations: Incentivizing and facilitating access to climate finance for adaptation

The private sector is a natural stakeholder in national climate change adaptation response. Apart from experiencing the direct impacts of climate change, the private sector is also key to implementing government actions to manage climate change impacts. For instance, smallscale farmers in Nigeria directly experience the impacts of climate change as they contend with falling crop yields. At the same time, they are the channels through which the government can introduce actions such as supplementary irrigation to cope with increasing water shortages during growing seasons.

Recognizing Rural and Urban Areas as Separate but Interlinked

In development planning, it is often advised to differentiate urban from rural areas in order to best address the differing needs of the people in the two communities. Although there are varying perceptions of what rural areas are (Wunderlich, 2016), they are widely believed to be characterized by primary occupations such as farming and in developing areas by higher levels of poverty. The fairly homogenous socioeconomic activities and socioeconomic infrastructures of rural areas in many parts of Nigeria make targeting them relatively easy. In general, rural areas need fewer (though often similar) adaptation options.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Monitoring and evaluation (M&E) is an important activity in any process or organization. This is because it is significant to measure programs in terms of both their progress toward results and their eventual outputs and outcomes. M&E describes the process of assessment that measures the impacts of a development project, program, or policy on a target group and assesses whether the desired indicators and objectives have been achieved. Putting in place effective M&E processes ensures that an activity or a program can be continually and meaningfully reviewed

Initiating and Launching the NAP Process

The Readiness Proposal to the Green Climate Fund (RP-GCF) is set to address five critical areas. These include

1. Strengthening adaptation governance and coordination for the NAP process
2. Building capacity to undertake a NAP planning process in Nigeria
3. Building capacity to mainstream climate change adaptation into national and sectoral policies; projects and plans strengthened
4. Developing a funding strategy for the implementation of the NAP process
5. Building capacity for monitoring, reviewing, and reporting on the NAP process

Taking Stock of What Has Been Done

This step involves a guided reflection on what has been done so far in the area of climate adaptation in the country. The goal is to create a proper direction for an expanded and coordinated national climate change adaptation response. Some of the relevant issues to consider are identifying key actors working on climate change actions in government and private sectors; obtaining updated information on climate change impacts, vulnerability, and adaptation for various regions and systems in the country; and determining gaps and needs for the NAP process. The stock-taking will include an assessment of past and ongoing adaptation actions in the country, to identify their strengths and weaknesses with respect to capacity, data, and information, and resources required to effectively engage in the NAP process (UNFCCC, 2013). This step will also include an assessment of the actual and potential barriers to the planning, design, and implementation of adaptation programs and activities. The Project Management Team in DCC will coordinate this aspect of the NAP process.

Strengthening the Financing of Adaptation

Financing the NAP process is a concern, given dwindling resources and increasing demands from all sectors of the economy. Nigeria's NAP process will include innovative exploration of the three finance windows: budgetary allocation from the federal and (possibly) state governments; international climate financial support, both bilateral and multilateral; and private sector funding. Along these lines, the DCC will promote the presentation of climate change not only as a disaster but also as a security challenge for which government action must be immediate and decisive. As suggested in the validation workshop, this will attract greater budgetary allocation to address the climate change challenge.

Conclusions

Climate actions, as recognized by the UNFCCC, are important in dealing with the impacts of climate change and will be vigorously pursued in Nigeria's NAP process. The NAP process will be run to connect with other activities going on in Nigeria's overall climate change response. Studies have shown that the various actions on mitigation and adaptation are connected. This connectivity will continue to guide the NAP process to ensure that it ultimately leads to reducing the impact of climate change while promoting sustainable development. It should be borne in mind that adaptation actions are often more like social services: they may not attract the interest of businesspeople as initiatives in the way that the use of renewable energy has done. Consequently, they may, in some cases, need to be incentivized to encourage potential adapters to take them up.