

Climate Research for Development in Africa

Programme strategy (2019–2023)





Climate Research for Development in Africa

Programme strategy (2019–2023)

Contents

Message from the oversight board.....	iii
Message from the Scientific Advisory Committee	iv
Message from the Institutional Collaboration Platform.....	v
Executive summary	vi
I. Introduction.....	1
II. Climate research for development framework for implementation	3
III. Vision, mission, principles and core values	6
IV. Gaps, challenges and political, economic, sociocultural, technological, legal and environmental (ecological) analysis.....	7
V. Climate Research for Development in Africa strategy (2019–2023)	10
VI. Risks associated with the implementation of the climate research for development strategic plan.....	14
VII. Additional documents for the implementation plan	15
Annex I: Terms of reference for the climate research for development Oversight Board	17
Annex II: Terms of reference for the Climate Research for Development in Africa Scientific Advisory Committee	18
Annex III: Terms of reference for the Climate Research for Development in Africa Institutional Collaboration Platform	21
Annex IV: Terms of reference for the Climate Research for Development in Africa secretariat	23

Message from the oversight board

Science-informed and evidence-based policy, planning and practices are essential to ensuring African development is sustainable and more resilient to the negative impacts of climate change. Hence, there is an increasing need for tailored weather and climate services, adaptation strategies, sustained policy support that will reduce Africa’s vulnerability to the vagaries of severe weather and extreme climate events. However, the major challenges facing the African climate research include lack of a critical mass of trained scientists with requisite expertise in understanding and predicting the climate driving mechanisms across time, space scales and inadequacy of observational networks for meteorological, hydrological and related environmental data. Further compounding the problems is a weak communication and computational capacity, as well as inadequate climate database management system. In this regard, the Climate Research for Development (CR4D) in Africa initiative promotes and nurtures a long-term collaborative African climate research agenda and related activities. The research should be driven by user information needs for decision support and strengthened through interdisciplinary co-design that enables the mainstreaming of climate information into policy for contingency planning of climate sensitive socio-economic activities and decision-making processes. The CR4D initiative is envisaged to support the up scaling of existing and new initiatives, fostering international collaboration and joint planning between projects and other initiatives. However, this ambitious research initiative requires close collaboration within the Africa climate research community, across existing projects, and forging linkages with new regional and international partners. The CR4D Oversight Board believes that the CR4D 5-years strategy will contribute to socio-economic development and poverty eradication efforts of Africa by conducting user-inspired climate science research that translates into appropriate and actionable information for policy and sustainable development planning.

Message from the Scientific Advisory Committee

Climate scientists predicted that future climate variability and change would significantly affect the livelihoods of both rural and urban communities in Africa. There is therefore an urgent need for African leaders to obtain accurate climate information to develop a large range of policy tools and services that would allow them to tackle this climatic injustice more effectively and efficiently. Since 2015, the Climate Research for Development in Africa initiative has benefited from the advice and expertise of African climate scientists provided to help other African scholars, policymakers, investors and other decision makers to generate quality climate information and apply these services in various socioeconomic initiatives to adapt to climatic extremes and their mitigation, as well as to reduce the risk of natural disasters.

With the support of its Scientific Advisory Committee, the Climate Research for Development in Africa secretariat has developed a strategic framework, providing a road map to improve the provision of climate services in Africa in the coming five years (2019–2023). Key features of this strategic framework include a strategic plan for climate research development in each subregion of Africa, a grant management framework for funding the implementation of Climate Research for Development in Africa and recommendations for identifying, mapping and bringing together key Climate Research for Development in Africa stakeholders to ensure the full implementation of the strategy for a better development of climate policies and investment. It is in this context, that the Committee provides guidance to the Climate Research for Development in Africa secretariat on climate research, policy, investment and other decision-making processes targeting climate variability and change. In addition, it has helped the secretariat to assess the climate information needs in each subregion of Africa. It has also assisted in identifying and mapping the members of an Institutional Collaborative Platform on climate research for development.

It is the sincere hope of the Climate Research for Development in Africa initiative that the full implementation of the its strategic framework will ensure an uninterrupted delivery of critical climate information services and technologies for adaptation to and the mitigation of climate change in Africa.

Message from the Institutional Collaboration Platform

The Institutional Collaboration Platform was operationalized in December 2017 as one of the Climate Research for Development in Africa governance structures to provide a space that promotes an interactive and collaborative research approach by bringing climate science, services and policymaking under a coordinated multidisciplinary network of expertise and institutions to collectively tackle user-driven research challenges, while maximizing the opportunities presented by climate change and variability to socioeconomic development in Africa. Collaboration on user-driven research and capacity-building are therefore important components emphasized by the Platform. The quality of products and services that meet the needs of users and society relies on a synergy being built among institutions. In addition, collaboration among the various institutions needs to be harnessed to avoid unnecessary duplication, conflict and the danger of leaving gaps in the process. Increasingly, development partners look favourably on collaborative projects that are implemented at regional and multidisciplinary scales.

The platform meets biannually to review progress and provide further guidance regarding users' climate information needs and priorities. The Platform has a chair and a vice-chair elected by its members, who serve for a period of two years. The members have been running various projects, programmes and activities that could provide great opportunities for the implementation of the Climate Research for Development in Africa agenda.

Accordingly, the Climate Research for Development in Africa initiative acknowledges the need for the Platform and places emphasis on greater user involvement so that its efforts become completely responsive to the societal needs, as emphasized in this five-year strategic plan of the initiative.

Executive summary

The Climate Research for Development in Africa strategic plan for the period 2019–2023 is aimed at maximizing the opportunities presented by climate variability and change and tackling the challenges posed to the socioeconomic development efforts of Africa. It specifically sets out directions and priorities to catalyse pan-African multidisciplinary climate research that is responsive to specific users and the development planning needs at the local, national and regional levels. In addition, it is intended to create a platform through an interactive and collaborative approach uniting climate science, services and policymaking under a coordinated network of expertise and institutions.

Furthermore, the strategic plan is aimed at improving knowledge, access, quality, usability and the mainstreaming of climate information into development planning and programmes to attain Africa’s development objectives, as framed by the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals, the Paris Agreement and Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want. Accordingly, the strategic plan 2019–2023 sets out the following four structural goals to sustainable development and to improve research capacity on the continent:

The CR4D five -year (2019-2023) Strategic Plan sets out research priorities in pursuance of four structural goals facilitating the establishment of multidisciplinary demand-driven research activities and three knowledge frontiers that frame the research foci relevant to the continent.”

- (a) Co-design multidisciplinary research for improving climate forecast skill and reliability across temporal and spatial scales;
- (b) Improve information service delivery, including information from observing systems;
- (c) Develop scientific and institutional capacity;
- (d) Provide climate services and user interface platforms.

Based on the 2013 African Climate Conference recommendations and emerging issues in the climate science area, the strategic plan has been created to advance African climate knowledge frontiers and provide a road map for mainstreaming climate information into the policy, practices and decision-making process. The Climate Research for Development in Africa knowledge frontiers are grouped broadly into three major thematic areas:

- (a) Foundational climate science;
- (b) Impact, information, translation and communication;
- (c) Engagement with policy, development and decision-making communities.

The implementation of these knowledge frontiers will contribute to the realization of the structural goals of the Climate Research for Development in Africa initiative. Each thematic area is overseen by a working group that develops research activities. The operation of the working group is monitored by the Climate Research for Development in Africa secretariat and is accountable to the Scientific Advisory Committee and the secretariat for the implementation of the research. Overall, carrying out the strategic plan requires input from diverse experts in climate science research, applications and policy in its effort to guide climate research for the period 2019–2023 and to bring the greatest benefit to the end user communities.

预览已结束，完整报告链接和二维码如下：

https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=5_741

