



The Africa Adaptation Programme (AAP) operates in 20 countries across Africa that have demonstrated a commitment to emission reductions and that are particularly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. It is a strategic initiative designed to help create more informed climate change adaptation decision-making and more effective implementation of those decisions in each of the 20 participating countries.

As the implementation of the AAP progresses, early lessons are emerging that show that a number of countries are facing operational challenges. Some common elements contributing to these challenges have been identified and include: insufficient human resources/capital to manage a rapidly increasing portfolio of adaptation projects, limited knowledge and experiences in planning and implementing adaptation initiatives, and relatively weak knowledge in monitoring and evaluation.

In partnership with United Nations Volunteers, the AAP is funding the project "Promoting Expedited Implementation and Sustained Results" to help countries address emerging challenges. The overall objective of the project is to develop the capacities of participating countries to expedite implementation of the AAP and facilitate the sustained results of AAP outcomes and outputs. This objective will be achieved through the following 2 outputs:

- **Output 1:** Country capacity to implement, monitor and evaluate climate change strategies, policies and processes strengthened
- **Output 2:** Country capacity to sustain the results of the AAP and other relevant climate change initiatives strengthened

To achieve these outputs, international and national UN Volunteers are being mobilized in many of the AAP countries. These UN Volunteers contribute to the country projects in a variety of ways, with emphasis on communications, knowledge management and financial management.

The AAP was established under the Japan-UNDP Joint Framework for Building Partnership to Address Climate Change in Africa, which was launched at the Fourth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD IV) organized in Yokohama, Japan in May 2008. The US\$92.1 million programme, funded by the Government of Japan, is implemented by UNDP in partnership with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the World Food Programme (WFP) and United Nations Volunteers.

Key Outcomes of the Overall Programme

- Long-term planning mechanisms introduced to manage both existing and future risks associated with climate change
- Effective leadership and institutional frameworks built for enhanced coordination and cohesion of programmes
- Climate resilient policies and measures implemented in priority sectors
- Financing options identified and expanded for sustained adaptation
- Knowledge generated and shared across all levels on adjusting national development processes to incorporate climate risks and opportunities

United Nations Volunteers



The United Nations Volunteers (UNV) programme is the UN organization that contributes to peace and development through volunteerism worldwide. UNV works with partners to integrate volunteerism into development programming and mobilize an increasing number and diversity of volunteers, including experienced UN Volunteers, throughout the world.

Based in Bonn, Germany, UNV is active in about 130 countries. UNV directly mobilizes on average 7,500 international and national UN Volunteers every year. 80 percent of international UN Volunteers come from developing countries. More than 30 percent of all UN Volunteers serve in their own countries.

AAP Countries

Burkina Faso	Morocco
Cameroon	Mozambique
Congo	Namibia
Ethiopia	Niger
Gabon	Nigeria
Ghana	Rwanda
Kenya	Sao-Tome Principe
Lesotho	Senegal
Malawi	Tanzania
Mauritius	Tunisia

AAP and UNV Partnership

Example 1: Senegal

The Inter-Regional Technical Support Component (IRTSC) of the AAP is based in Dakar, Senegal and provides a package of support to the country teams that link the various projects. All countries will benefit from and contribute to a much wider knowledge base on best practices. Three international UN Volunteers were recruited to support IRTSC in achieving its objectives at headquarters and country levels.

Annelies Hickendorff, UN Volunteer Communications Officer is assisting the UNDP Communications Specialist in the design and development of communication and outreach plans. She is involved in the writing, editing and production of communication materials such as brochures, newsletters, posters and videos, which will be showcased online as well as at events where the AAP is participating.

Example 2: Malawi

Ilaria Gallo has been a UN Volunteer with UNDP Malawi since March 2010. Malawi is a Least Developed Country, facing an AIDS epidemic, chronic malnutrition and land degradation, with more than 90 percent of the agricultural production being rain-fed. Climate change, and the resulting increased frequency and intensity of drought and floods, represents a real challenge in Malawi by exacerbating poverty levels and weakening water and food security, especially for those most vulnerable.

Under the AAP, Ilaria has focused on assisting UNDP in specific policy analysis for the climate change sector. She has also supported the development of annual and quarterly AAP work-plans and budgets and tracks the status of AAP implementation on a regular basis. "Being a UN Volunteer engaged in climate

change is very challenging, but also very rewarding. Every day, it is possible to learn new things, develop skills and wisely use analytical, strategic and creative skills," says Ilaria.

Example 3: Burkina Faso

Under the AAP, Burkina Faso has recruited two National UN Volunteers to support project delivery. Burkina Faso is a landlocked country in West Africa, one of the poorest regions in the world and, which has shown great climate variability in recent decades. Burkina Faso is facing other challenges as well, such as limited institutional and leadership capacity. The two National UN Volunteers have been important members of the AAP team, helping to overcome the challenges of integrating adaptation into national development processes and sharing the heavy burdens of the many projects managed by the UNDP Country Office.

Bessina Marina, UN Volunteer Procurement Specialist, is in charge of all procurement issues, such as the establishment of contracts with consultants and research institutions. Paul Andre Traore, UN Volunteer Financial Specialist, is tasked with the regular monitoring of the financial progress of the project, including following up on all financial transactions.

Moving Forward

UN Volunteers have played an integral role in the implementation of the AAP. With the assistance of UN Volunteers, AAP countries are building their adaptive capacity, promoting early adaptation action and adjusting their national development processes to fully incorporate climate change risks and opportunities.

Contact Information

UNV

Takaaki Miyaguchi, takaaki.miyaguchi@undp.org

Programme Specialist for Environment and Climate Change
Bonn, Germany

AAP

Ian Rector, ian.rector@undp.org

AAP Programme Manager
Dakar, Senegal

www.undp-adaptation.org/africaprogramme