

# Global Climate Change Alliance



Paving the Way for Climate Compatible Development:  
Experiences from the Global Climate Change Alliance

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Upper image: Mangrove planting in Jamaica

Middle image: Youth drawing competition about climate change in Cambodia

Lower image: At the first GCCA Global Learning Event, September 2012

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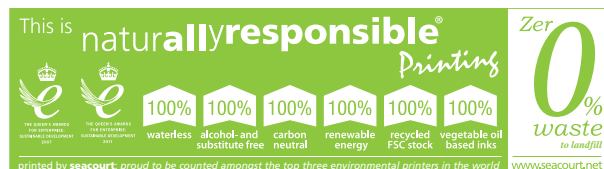
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Sophie De Coninck oversaw the content and led the writing of the publication, in collaboration with Paul Renier (DG Development and Cooperation of the European Commission).



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# Foreword



There is compelling scientific evidence that climate change is happening. Climate is the ultimate example of a global public good shared across borders, across generations, by all populations. Climate change also affects virtually every sector of the global economy and all societies.

Every day the threat becomes more menacing and lives and livelihoods of millions of people are affected. When such global public good is at risk, it's simply not possible to adequately respond on an individual basis to the threat, as it requires everyone working together to solve the problem. Moreover, many of those countries least responsible for causing climate change are the most seriously affected by it.

Climate change is, therefore, not only an environmental problem for developed countries but more and more a development issue, which can quickly erase years of development efforts if not adequately addressed.

The EU has taken the leading role in promoting the international agenda to combat climate change, both internally by setting and acting upon ambitious domestic targets to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and internationally by actively engaging in climate change negotiations and supporting partner countries in implementing adaptation and mitigation strategies.

In 2007, the EU pioneered the establishment of the Global Climate Change Alliance (GCCA). The GCCA is now a well-established mechanism and a reference for future actions. Back in 2008, the GCCA was working with four countries. By the end of 2012, over 45 GCCA programmes will either be up and running or in preparation in more than 35 countries and four regions within an envelope of over €285 million.

The GCCA works hard to support those poorer countries and regions most vulnerable to climate change by building the human, technical and financial capacity needed to tackle it. This support is in particular focused on the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS).

This rapid expansion has been underpinned by a commitment to make addressing the challenges posed by climate change a fundamental driver for development.

Examples of actions are multiple and range from mangrove restoration in Guyana, to increased land tenure security in Rwanda to improved early warning and monitoring in Vanuatu, with a common *leit motiv* of securing livelihoods and protecting communities at risk.

The GCCA also builds on the knowledge and experience gained on the ground to inform and

shape the international debate by promoting high level policy dialogue and creating a dynamic of exchange and learning.

Through the GCCA, relevant lessons learned in Cambodia or Mozambique can trigger similar efforts in Myanmar or the Comoros. Experiences with budget support in Bhutan or the Solomon Islands help to design new development programmes in Lesotho. The eco-villages in Tanzania can stimulate similar initiatives in Haiti or Malawi.

This publication is aimed at providing an insight into the GCCA's wide-ranging programmes in countries and regions across the globe and on the ways that climate change is integrated in development activities.

I hope it can provide a source of inspiration for practitioners and decision-makers who are at the forefront of the fight against climate change, for the benefit of the poorest and most vulnerable people across the world.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andris Piebalgs'.



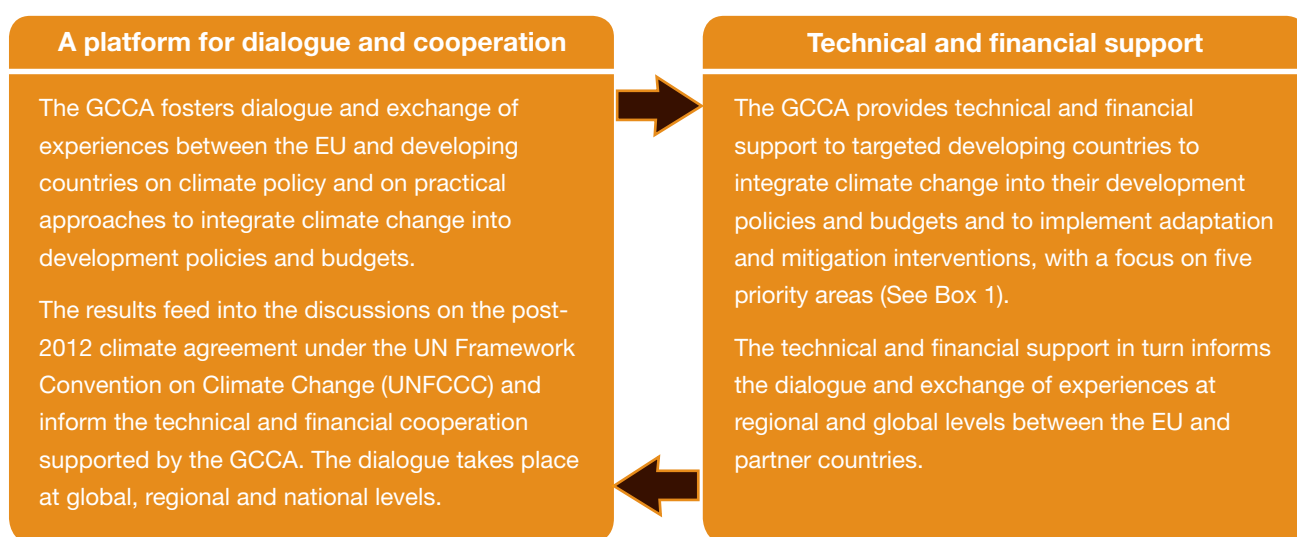
# Adding Value to the Climate Change Landscape

## A platform for dialogue and technical and financial support

The GCCA makes a key contribution to the climate change landscape through a double layer of action: the dialogue and exchange of experiences and the cooperation through country or regional

interventions. This double stream enables the GCCA to promote the transfer of knowledge from the field, informing the international climate change debate and decision-making at the highest level. It also

ensures coherence between political commitments or internationally agreed principles like the MDGs and aid effectiveness and the way climate aid translates into practice.

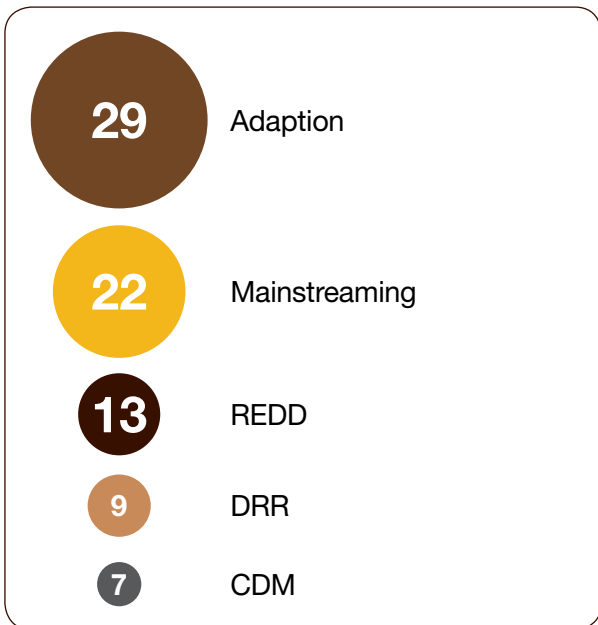


**Diagram 1: The two pillars of the GCCA**

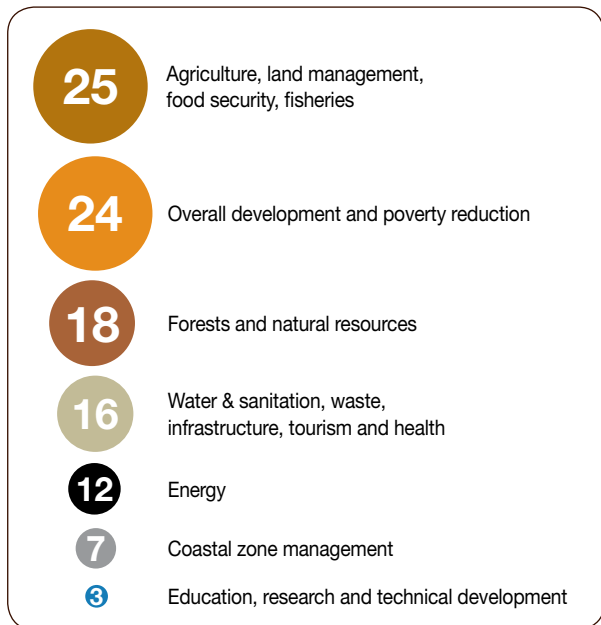
The GCCA's technical support focuses on five priority areas. The majority of these are still very new and deserve dedicated assistance, with a focus on learning and knowledge creation.

- 1 Mainstreaming climate change into poverty reduction and development efforts** The GCCA supports the systematic integration of climate change considerations into national development planning, from policymaking and budgeting to implementation and monitoring. This priority area, which focuses on institutional strengthening, is often combined with adaptation and DRR.
- 2 Adaptation.** The GCCA aims to help improve knowledge about the effects of climate change and the design and implementation of appropriate adaptation actions, in particular in the water and agriculture sectors, which reduce the vulnerability of the population to the impacts of climate change. The GCCA builds on National Adaptation Programmes of Action (NAPAs) and other national plans.
- 3 Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD).** In LDCs 60 per cent of emissions originate from land use change, primarily deforestation. The GCCA supports solutions to reduce carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions from deforestation and create incentives for forest protection, while preserving livelihoods and ecosystems depending on forests.
- 4 Enhancing participation in the global carbon market.** The GCCA aims to promote a more equitable geographic distribution of financing opportunities linked to the carbon market by building the capacities of partner countries to access this source of funding, particularly in the field of energy.
- 5 Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR).** The GCCA seeks to help developing countries to prepare for climate-related natural disasters, reduce their risks and limit their impacts.

**Box 1: The five priority areas of the GCCA**



**Diagram 2: Distribution of priority areas supported by the GCCA to 2012 (number of interventions)**



**Diagram 3: Distribution of sectors supported by the GCCA to 2012 (number of interventions)**

Diagrams 2 and 3 show the distribution of priority areas and sectors supported by both national and regional GCCA supported interventions.

## A fast track initiative

In 2008, the GCCA was working with four countries. By 2013, the number of beneficiary countries will have increased more than ten-fold.

By the end of 2012, over 45 GCCA programmes will be on-going or under preparation in over 35 countries and four regions (see Map 1) within an envelope of over €285 million. The development of this funding is presented in Diagram 4.

In addition to regular development aid devoted to climate change, the GCCA relies on new and additional fast start funding pledged at the UNFCCC 15th Conference of the Parties in Copenhagen in 2009. The availability of this fast start funding has contributed to the rapid expansion of the initiative. The distribution of GCCA funding sources is presented in Diagram 5.

The rapid expansion of the GCCA addresses the demand from developing countries to deliver urgent support to deal with climate change. It also means preparing programmes under tight calendars, in a challenging context.

## A catalyst for long-term climate change finance and support

The recent GCCA First Global Learning Event (see *Managing knowledge and ensuring learning*) highlighted the challenges of competing priorities, limited absorptive capacity, donor coordination and uncertainties related to future climate finance, among others.

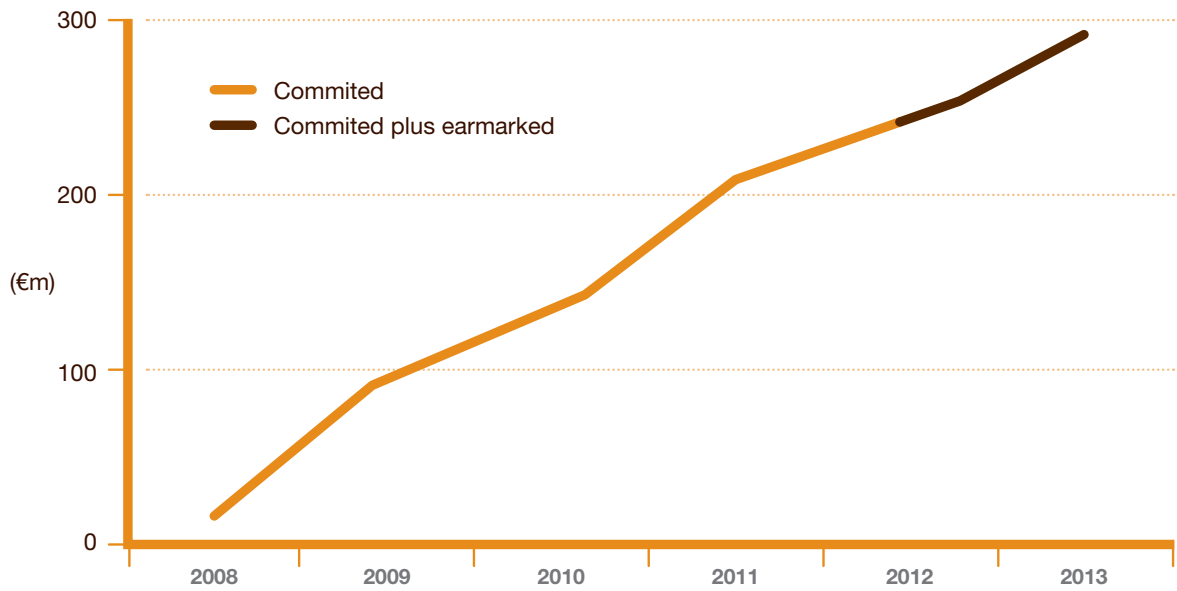
The GCCA contributes to addressing these challenges, in particular by strengthening planning capacities, public financial management and monitoring systems, laying the foundation for climate-related budget support, contributing to setting up multi-donor funds, paving the way for nationally-owned climate change trust

funds, and attracting co-financing for climate related interventions.

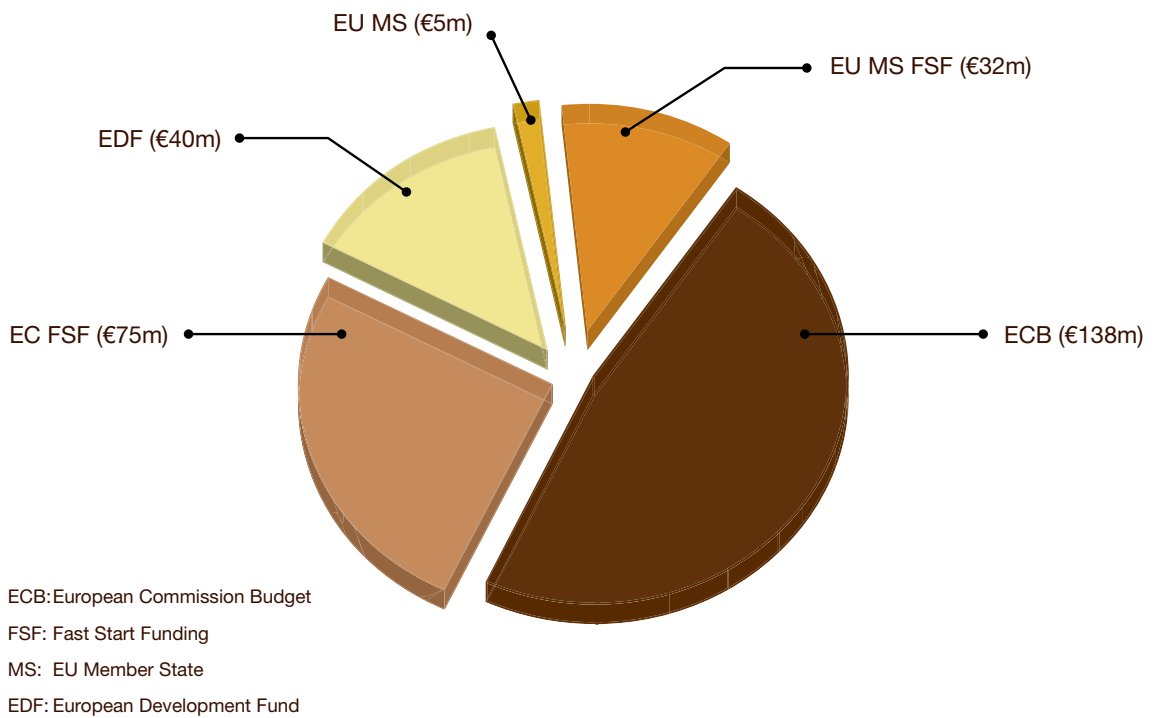
In addition, GCCA programmes support countries in preparing for participation in REDD+, and for enhanced access to the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) and voluntary carbon markets.

Through this approach, the GCCA is helping countries increase their absorptive capacities and prepare to receive the long-term climate change finance, which is vital to promote climate compatible development. It also serves as a catalyst to further integrate climate change into EU regular development aid, thereby creating a multiplier effect.

At international level, the GCCA experience plays a role in informing international negotiations on climate change, in particular with regard to the set-up of the Green Climate Fund.

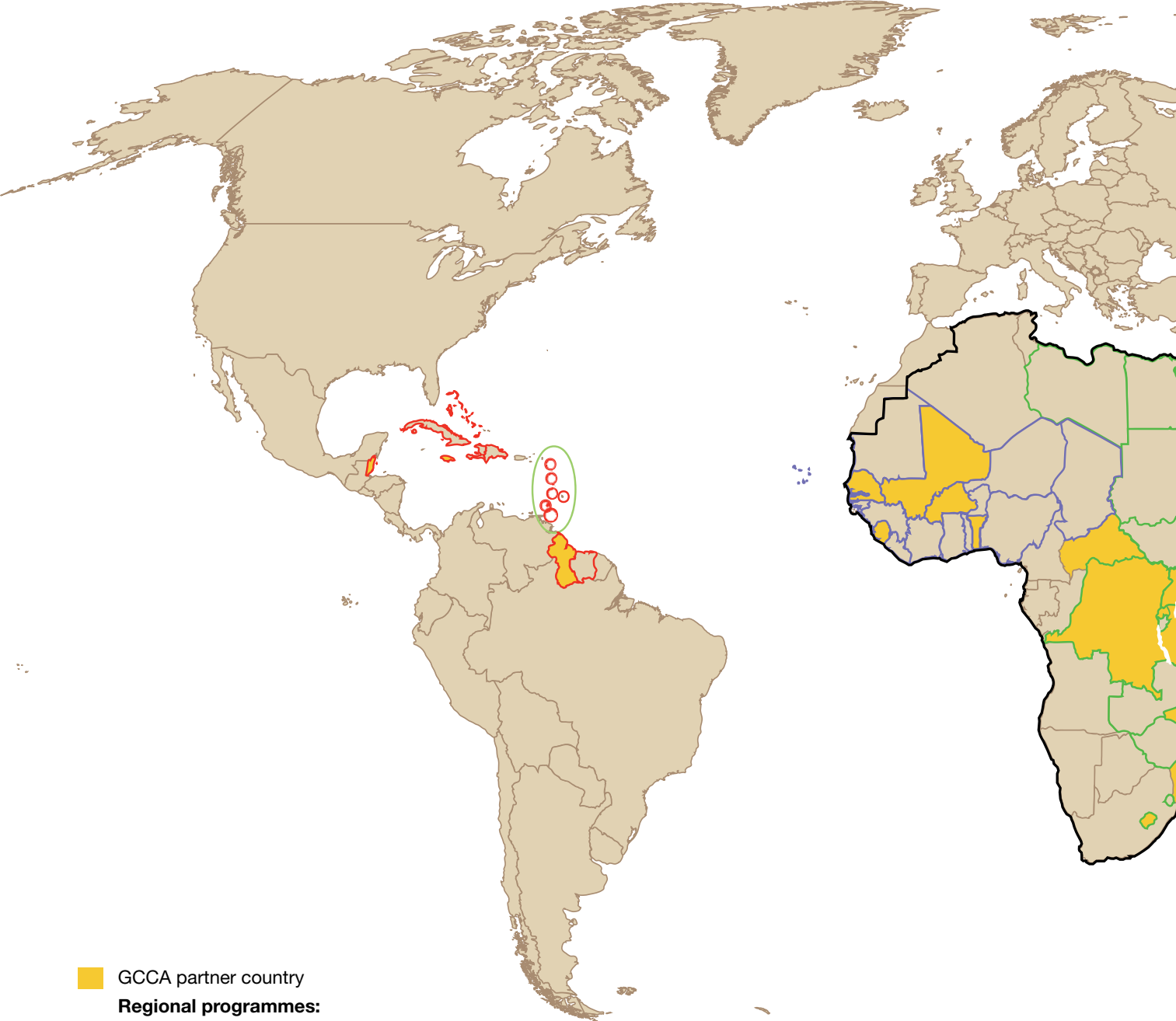


**Diagram 4: Cumulated GCCA funding 2008 to 2013, committed and earmarked (€m)**

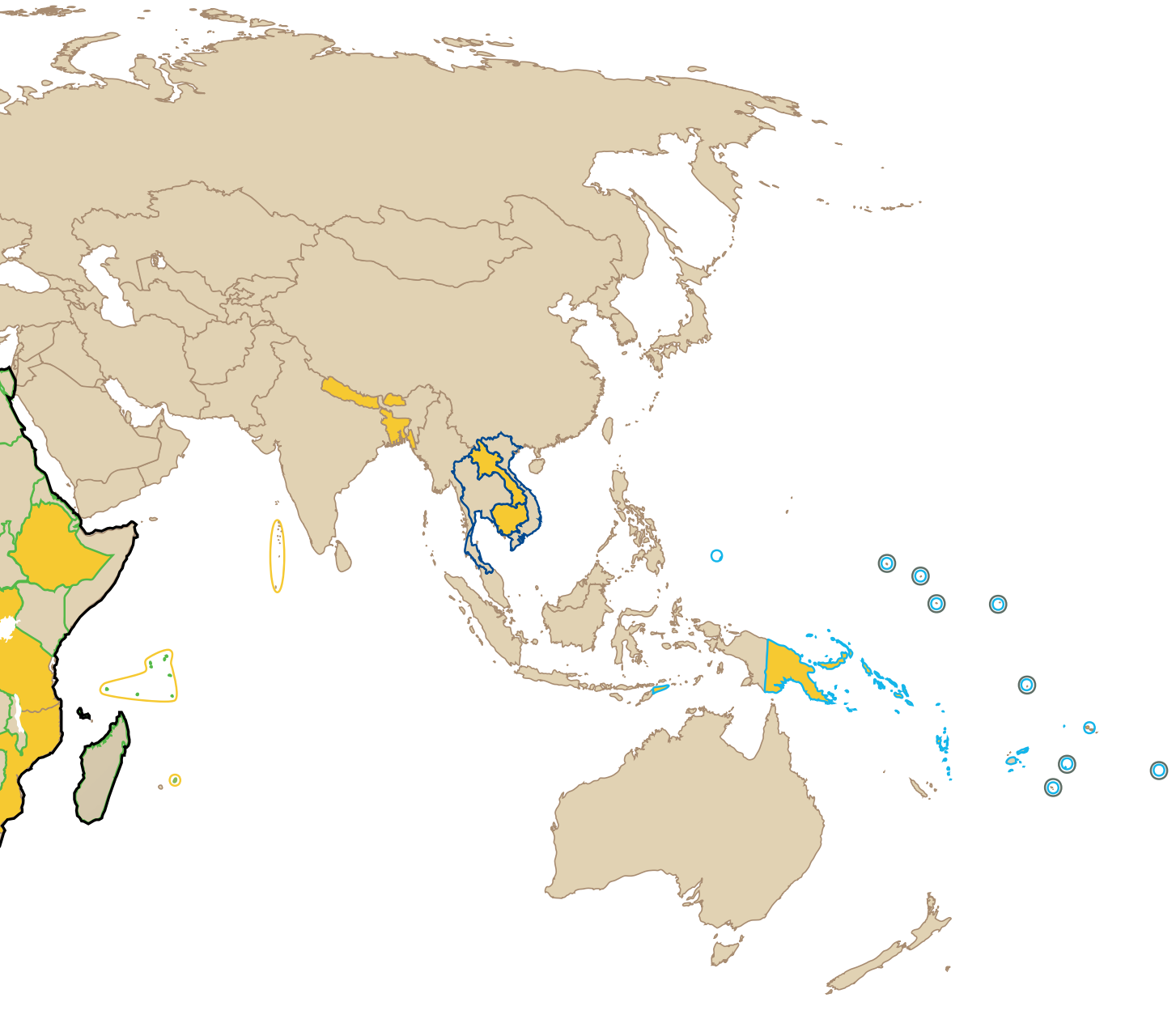


**Diagram 5: Origin of funding of the GCCA 2008 to 2013, committed and earmarked (€m)**

# Map 1: Overview of GCCA supported programmes



- GCCA partner country
- Regional programmes:**
- Lower Mekong Basin
- Africa
- Eastern and Southern Africa
- Western Africa
- Pacific
- South Pacific
- Caribbean
- Eastern Caribbean



## A network of programmes at country and regional levels

The GCCA benefits from a wide network of climate change practitioners, development partners, and EU actors across four regions and 35 countries.

GCCA partner countries and organisations all benefit and contribute to the richness of this network and from the wealth of information and knowledge that over 45 programmes across the world generate. The value comes from both the range and the large number of GCCA interventions. The countries the GCCA is

working in span continents and support climate change action in communities from the mountain slopes of the Himalayas to the mangrove forests of Guyana. Interventions cover many different sectors, five key priority areas and make use of different aid modalities. At the same time, the vast majority of the programmes share similar objectives, focus or approaches with other programmes and therefore they can learn from each other.

The seven regional programmes complement the country interventions, and facilitate networking at the regional level as well as at the cross-regional level. The GCCA's largest intervention focused on the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Group of States

oversees five of the seven regional programmes and offers technical assistance and support to 80 ACP Member States for an overall budget of €40 million (see Box 2).

The scale of the GCCA and range of interventions therefore provides a wealth of climate change knowledge and experience. Also, the GCCA is committed to high-level dialogue and to the exchange and sharing of the accumulated learning across the climate change community. The recent First Global Learning Event was an excellent example of how a network of programmes at country and regional levels can inform and enhance the debate (See *Managing knowledge and ensuring learning*).

**The purpose of the intra-ACP programme is to help the ACP group to better tackle climate change as a challenge to their development, in particular to improve the understanding of the effects of climate change and to contribute to adequate adaptation and mitigation responses. The programme is structured along seven independent but interlinked components. Five of these components are implemented by regional institutions in the ACP regions (see Table 6).**

**Two additional components provide institutional and technical support to the overall programme. This means ensuring the overall coordination between the different components, with the other GCCA interventions, as well as other initiatives in ACP Member States. It also entails providing technical assistance on climate change to the ACP missions, embassies and to the ACP countries, based on demand. From project formulation to studies and training, ACP countries can apply for short-term customised technical assistance through the intra-ACP section of the GCCA website.**

### **Box 2: GCCA experience: Supporting the ACP regions and countries**

# Table 1: Overview of GCCA supported country programmes

Programmes earmarked for 2012 GCCA funding are indicated with an asterisk

Budget support programmes are highlighted in yellow

Region/Country	Partners	GCCA priority areas	Sectors	Budget	Duration
Bangladesh	The World Bank, Ministry of Environment and Forests	Adaptation and DRR	Overall development and poverty reduction  Agriculture; coastal zone management; infrastructure; land management; and natural resources	Total value: €127.6 million (EC €28.5 million, of which GCCA: €8.5 million; UK: €69.7 million; Sweden: €10.2 million; USA: €10.0 million; Australia: €5.3 million; Switzerland: €2.6 million; and Denmark: €1.3 million)	2011 to 2017
Belize	United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, National Emergency Management Organisation	Mainstreaming and adaptation	Overall development and poverty reduction  Water	Total value: €3.2 million (GCCA: €2.9 million; Government of Belize and UNDP €0.3 million)	2012 to 2014
Benin	UNDP, National Centre for the Management of Fauna Reserves National Geographical Institute, National Remote Detection Centre, Ministry of Environment, Habitat and Urbanism	REDD and DRR	Forests	Total value: €8.3 million (GCCA: €8 million and UNDP: €0.3 million)	2012 to 2016
Bhutan	Ministry of Agriculture and Forests, Gross National Happiness Commission	Mainstreaming	Overall development and poverty reduction  Agriculture	Total value: €4.40 million (GCCA including €0.8 million fast start funding from Estonia)	2013 to 2016
Burkina Faso*	World Bank; Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development	Mainstreaming; adaptation and REDD	Forests and land management	GCCA contribution €8 million	2013 to 2018 (est)
Cambodia	UNDP, Cambodia Climate Change Alliance, Ministry of Environment	Mainstreaming	Overall development and poverty reduction	Total value: €8.35 million (GCCA, €2.21 million; Sweden: €3.40 million; Denmark: €0.37 million; and UNDP: €2.31 million)	2009 to 2012

Region/Country	Partners	GCCA priority areas	Sectors	Budget	Duration
Central African Republic*	Agence Française de Développement (AFD), Ministry of Water, Forests, Hunting and Fishing; Ministry of Environment and Ecology	REDD	Overall development and poverty reduction  Forests	GCCA contribution €4 million, plus Fonds Français pour l'Environnement Mondial	2013 to 2018 (est)
Democratic Republic of Congo	Ministry of Environment, Nature Conservation and Tourism, Congolese Institute for Nature Conservation, Centre for International Forestry Research	REDD and adaptation	Forests and energy	Total value: € 14.0 million (GCCA)	2012 to 2017
Ethiopia	AFD, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH (GIZ), Environmental Protection Authority, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	Mainstreaming; adaptation and CDM	Overall development and poverty reduction  Land management; and energy	Total value: €13.7 million (GCCA, including €8 million EC fast start funding)	2011 to 2015
Guyana	Ministry of Agriculture through the National Agriculture Research and Extension Institute	Adaptation and REDD	Coastal zone management	Total value: € 4.165 million (GCCA)	2009 to 2014
Jamaica	United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Planning Institute of Jamaica, Forestry Department, National Environment Protection Agency, Ministry of Housing, Environment and Water	Adaptation; REDD and DRR	Coastal zone management; forests and natural resources management	Total value: €4.48 million (GCCA: €4.13 million; Government of Jamaica and UNEP: €0.35 million)	2010 to 2013
Lao PDR	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment and the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.	Mainstreaming and adaptation	Overall development and poverty reduction  Agriculture and land management	Total value: €6.2 million (GCCA € 5.0 million and grantees €1.2 million)	2012 to 2017
Lesotho*	Ministry of Finance and Development Planning	Mainstreaming	Overall development and poverty reduction  Energy	Total value €4 million (GCCA fast start funding from Ireland)	2013 to 2016 (est)
Maldives	World Bank, Ministry of Housing and Environment	Adaptation	Overall development and poverty reduction  Energy and waste	Total value: € 3.8 million (GCCA)  Other contributions to the multi-donor trust fund include EU: €2.7 million and AusAID: AUD\$ 0.5 million.	2009 to 2015



Region/Country	Partners	GCCA priority areas	Sectors	Budget	Duration
Mali	Ministry of Environment and Sanitation, National Forestry Directorate, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation	REDD	Forests	Total value: €6.215 million (GCCA: €5.65 million; and Government of Mali: € 0.565 million)	2010 to 2015
Mauritius	Maurice Île Durable Commission. Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development	Mainstreaming and CDM	Overall development and poverty reduction Energy	Total value: €3 million (GCCA)	2010 to 2013
Mozambique	Ministry of Foreign Affairs Denmark (DANIDA), Ministry for the Coordination of the Environmental Action	Mainstreaming; adaptation and DRR	Overall development and poverty reduction Agriculture	Total value: €47 million (GCCA: €15.2 million, including €5 million fast start funding from Ireland DANIDA: €31.5 million; and Government of Mozambique: €0.3 million)	2011 to 2015
Nepal	Department for International Development (DFID), UNDP, Ministry of Environment	Mainstreaming and adaptation	Overall development and poverty reduction	Total value €16.5 million (GCCA: €8.6 million, including €0.6 million fast start funding from Cyprus; and DFID: € 7.9 million)	2012 to 2015
Papua New Guinea*	Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), PNG Forest Authority	REDD	Forests	GCCA contribution €6 million, plus UN-REDD	2013 to 2017
Rwanda	Rwanda Natural Resources Authority, Ministry of Natural Resources	Adaptation	Land management	Total value: € 4.555 million (GCCA)	2010 to 2012
Samoa	Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment	Mainstreaming; adaptation and DRR	Water and sanitation	Total value: € 3 million (GCCA)	2012 to 2015
Senegal	Directorate for Environment and Classified Establishments of the Ministry of Environment	Adaptation	Coastal zone management	Total value: € .4 million (GCCA)	2011 to 2014
Seychelles	National Climate Change Committee, Ministry of Home Affairs, Environment, Transport and Energy, Seychelles Energy Commission	Mainstreaming and CDM	Overall development and poverty reduction Energy	Total value: € 2 million (GCCA)	2010 to 2013

Region/Country	Partners	GCCA priority areas	Sectors	Budget	Duration
Sierra Leone	Forestry Division of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food Security	REDD	Forests and energy	Total value: €5 million (GCCA, fast start funding from Ireland)	2012 to 2016
Solomon Islands	Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management, Ministry of National Planning and Aid Coordination	Mainstreaming; adaptation and DRR	Overall development and poverty reduction	Total value: €2.8 million (GCCA)	2011 to 2014
Tanzania	Ministry of Finance, Vice-President's Office – Division of Environment, Community Forest Pemba, Institute of Rural Development Planning, Sokoine University of Agriculture	Adaptation and REDD	Overall development and poverty reduction  Agriculture; coastal zone management; land management; natural resources; and water and sanitation	Total value: €2.2 million (GCCA)	2010 to 2013
The Gambia	Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs, National Environment Agency, Department of Water Resources, Ministry of Forestry and the Environment	Mainstreaming and adaptation	Overall development and poverty reduction  Coastal zone management	Total value: €3.86 million (GCCA)	2012 to 2016
Timor Leste*	Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries; Ministry of Economy and Development; Ministry of State Administration and Territorial Management; National Directorate for DRR; Instituto Português de Apoio ao Desenvolvimento (IPAD); (GIZ)	Mainstreaming and adaptation	Overall development and poverty reduction  Forests; agriculture and natural resources management	Total value €4 million (GCCA fast start funding from Ireland)	2013 to 2018
Uganda	Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), Ministry of Water and Environment, Ministry of Agriculture	Mainstreaming and adaptation	Agriculture	Total value: €11 million (GCCA, fast start funding from Ireland)	2012 to 2016
Vanuatu	World Bank, Department Of Meteorology and Geo-Hazard	Mainstreaming; adaptation and DRR	Overall development and poverty reduction  Agriculture; natural resources; and water and sanitation	Total value: € 5.7 million (GCCA: €3.2 million and World Bank: €2.5 million)	2010 to 2014

# Making Climate Change Support Effective

The GCCA is committed to aid effectiveness principles and it is demonstrating this commitment through a range of delivery modalities and approaches.

The GCCA promotes alignment and ownership through support to climate change mainstreaming, the use of decentralised management, sector policy support programmes and budget support, as well as through in-depth and sustained dialogue.

The GCCA also supports joint programming, financing and management between the EC, EU Member States and other development partners.

Table 2 provides an overview of the aid modalities used for GCCA programmes across the world. It indicates programmes with a direct contribution to an existing national programme or strategy, and

multi donor initiatives under various forms (See later section *Fostering harmonisation and coordination*).

The GCCA currently supports nineteen national and eight regional interventions based on the project approach, with another nine in preparation. Seven GCCA programmes are based on the sector approach, including four implemented through sector budget

## Table 2: Overview of aid modalities used for GCCA country programmes

Project approach	Sector Programme and Sector Budget Support	General Budget Support
Belize (†) (‡)	Bangladesh (†) (‡) (√)	Lesotho (*) (‡)
Benin (†)	Bhutan (*) (‡)	Mauritius (*) (‡)
Burkina Faso (†) (‡)	Cambodia (†) (√)	Seychelles (*) (‡)
Central African Republic (†) (‡)	Guyana (*) (‡)	Solomon Islands (*) (‡)
DR Congo (†)	Mozambique (†) (‡)	
Ethiopia (†) (‡)	Rwanda (*) (‡)	
Jamaica (†)	Samoa (*) (‡)	
Lao PDR		
Maldives (†) (√)		
Mali		
Nepal (†) (‡)		
Papua New Guinea (†) (‡)		
Senegal		
Sierra Leone		
Tanzania		
The Gambia		
Timor-Leste (†)		
Uganda (†) (‡) (√)		
Vanuatu (†) (‡)		

(‡) Direct contribution to the implementation of an existing national programme or strategy

(†) Multi-donor initiative: joint financing and/or management arrangements

(√) Multi-donor initiative: Contribution to a multi-donor pool or trust fund

(\*) Budget support

support and four take the form of general budget support (See *Piloting budget support for climate change*).

## Ensuring ownership and alignment

GCCA programmes are designed to align with national priorities and support on-going national initiatives. As shown in Table 3, many GCCA interventions including project-based ones directly contribute to the implementation of existing national programmes and strategies – or support the development of new

ones in partnership with national stakeholders, for instance in the context of REDD+ or integrated coastal zone management.

A similar approach of alignment is pursued at the regional level. For instance, the GCCA supports the Mekong River Commission’s Climate Change and Adaptation Initiative and the implementation of some priorities of the Pacific Islands Framework for Action on Climate Change (PIFACC), through support for the Secretariat of the South Pacific (SPC) and the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP).

The GCCA also aligns with climate related strategies, plans and programmes. The approach varies across programmes – from support for projects or priority intervention areas identified in the NAPA, as in **Maldives, Nepal, Uganda** and **Vanuatu**, to a contribution to the implementation of a comprehensive national adaptation plan spanning multiple sectors, as in **Bangladesh** and **Ethiopia**. Box 3 shows how these GCCA-supported interventions promote or build on national adaptation priorities.

### Table 3: GCCA programme contributions to existing national programmes or strategies

GCCA intervention in:	Contributes to:
Belize	Implementation of the National Adaptation Strategy to Address Climate Change in the Water Sector
Burkina Faso	Implementation of the National Rural Sector Plan
Central African Republic	Implementation of the national REDD+ strategy in the south-western region
Ethiopia	Implementation of the Climate Resilient Green Economy strategy, the national Climate Change Adaptation programme, and the Sustainable Land Management programme
Nepal	Mainstreaming of NAPA-prioritised activities through the national framework of Local Adaptation Plans for Action
Papua New Guinea	Implementation of national REDD readiness plan
Uganda	Implementation of the NAPA, operationalisation of two climate-related objectives of the 2010 National Development Plan
Vanuatu	Implementation of measures identified in the NAPA
Bangladesh	Implementation of the Bangladesh Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan
Bhutan	Implementation of the Renewable Natural Resources sector programme/five-year plan
Guyana	Implementation of the National Mangrove Action plan
Rwanda	Implementation of the Strategic Roadmap for Land Tenure Reform and the Strategic Plan for Environment and Natural Resources
Samoa	Implementation of the Water for Life sector plan
Lesotho	Implementation of the environment and climate change priorities of the National Strategic Development Plan
Mauritius	Implementation of the ‘Maurice Île Durable’ sustainable development strategy
Seychelles	Implementation of the Seychelles National Climate Change Strategy and the Seychelles Sustainable Development Strategy
Solomon Islands	Implementation of some NAPA priorities and the National Disaster Risk Management Plan

In **Bangladesh**, the GCCA contributes to the multi-donor Climate Change Resilience Fund, which was set up to channel external climate change funding in support of the Bangladesh Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan.

In **Ethiopia**, the GCCA intervention is contributing to the implementation of specific activities under the government's comprehensive climate change adaptation programme, which comprises activities spanning twenty major sectors. Besides institutional support for climate change mainstreaming, it finances the field-testing of adaptation measures in the area of sustainable land management.

In **Jamaica**, GCCA funding supports a pre-existing watershed replanting initiative. It enables the Forestry Department to accelerate the process using their existing structures and procedures. Rapid mobilisation was achieved following the signing of the financing agreement, as it was not necessary to set up a separate project management structure. Besides speed of implementation, this approach also contributes to increased sustainability, as the skills and experience are retained within the Forestry Department.

In **Maldives**, support for coral reef biodiversity and fisheries is among the priority adaptation strategies identified in the National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA). Improving waste management practices is also identified as one way of protecting coral reefs and preventing pollution of the marine environment, as well as improving the health of the population. Two of the three projects so far selected for financing by the multi-donor Climate Change Trust Fund address these priorities.

### Box 3: GCCA experience – Aligning with national adaptation priorities

## Fostering harmonisation and coordination

At the global level, EU Member States and the European Commission both contribute financially to the GCCA, including through their fast-start funding pledges. In 2008, Sweden dedicated €4.5 million and the Czech Republic €0.2 million. In 2010, two Member States committed their pledges on fast-start funding through the GCCA. Ireland committed €23 million and Cyprus € 0.6 million. In 2011, Ireland and Estonia committed €8 million and €0.8 million respectively.

At the national level, the GCCA interventions are jointly financed, programmed, and/or managed with international organisations like CIFOR, UNDP, UNEP, FAO and the World Bank, as well as EU Member State development agencies such as the Denmark's development cooperation, under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in **Cambodia** and **Mozambique**, the UK Department for International Development (DFID) in **Nepal**, German International Cooperation (GIZ) in **Ethiopia** and

**Timor-Leste**, the French Agency for Development (AFD) in **Central African Republic** and **Ethiopia**, and the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) in **Cambodia**, as shown in Table 4.

In countries engaged or considering engagement in the REDD+ process, GCCA-funded activities support specific aspects of 'REDD readiness', complementing relevant activities financed by other programmes such as UN-REDD, the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) in **Burkina Faso**, **Central African Republic** and **DR Congo** or the World Bank-administered Forest Invest Program (FIP) in **Burkina Faso** and **DR Congo**, as presented in Box 4.

Another four GCCA interventions contribute to multi-donor funds (see Table 5). Three of these are climate change-related funds expected to lay the foundations for nationally-owned climate change trust funds. These multi-donor trust funds are seen as intermediate structures, set up to develop and test management mechanisms and build capacities with a view to the future transfer

to fully nationally-owned systems. Contributing to such multi-donor funds supports both harmonisation and alignment objectives.

Several regional programmes contribute to wider, multi-donor initiatives, as for instance with support for the pan-African Climate for Development (ClimDev) initiative, the programme on climate change adaptation and mitigation in southern and eastern Africa (COMESA), and the Mekong River Commission's Climate Change and Adaptation Initiative.

**“For a small EU Member State committed to multi-lateral processes, the experience with the GCCA has been positive”**

Mr. Noel Casserly Climate Change Policy, Department of the Environment, Community & Local Government, Ireland

In **Central African Republic**, the GCCA will support the implementation of the REDD+ strategy in the Southwest region. This will include the setting up of a territorial planning system, the development of a regional forest strategy, the completion of the environmental and social strategic assessment, the definition of a baseline scenario and a monitoring, reporting and verification (MRV) mechanism for a REDD pilot project, and the registration of this project under the voluntary carbon market. It will support capacity building and networking for civil society and other stakeholders in relation to the FLEGT and REDD+ processes, to reinforce their role as independent observers.

In **Mali**, the project capitalises on previous forest inventories, while supporting the implementation of additional forest inventories in regions not yet covered and of studies on the carbon sequestration potential of various tree species. This, combined with technical and institutional support for the forest information system management unit, will help the country prepare for potential participation in REDD+.

In **Papua New Guinea**, the GCCA provides support to the PNG Forest Authority for the implementation of a continuous and multi-purpose national forest inventory, to be part of the National Forest Monitoring System that will be set up in the context of the country's participation in REDD+. The forest inventory will provide a foundation for the REDD+ MRV mechanism, and a baseline for the five pilot REDD projects currently under preparation.

In **Sierra Leone**, the GCCA programme will support the completion of the forest and carbon inventory; the development of a MRV system; the completion of an opportunity cost assessment for the conversion of forest areas; and the provision of inputs into the definition of a national REDD+ policy.

**Box 4: GCCA experience – Joining hands in support of REDD+**

Table 4: Joint management, programming and financing under the GCCA

GCCA intervention:	Is managed with or by:	Is co-financed by:
Belize	UNDP	UNDP
Benin	UNDP	UNDP
Burkina Faso	World Bank	World Bank
Central African Republic	AFD	Fonds Français pour l'Environnement Mondial
DR Congo	CIFOR	n/a
Ethiopia	AFD and GIZ	n/a
Jamaica	UNEP	UNEP
Maldives	World Bank	World Bank, AusAID
Mozambique	DANIDA	DANIDA
Nepal	DFID	DFID
Papua New Guinea	FAO	UN-REDD
Timor-Leste	IPAD, GIZ	n/a
Vanuatu	World Bank	World Bank

## Table 5: GCCA contributions to multi-donor funds or initiatives

GCCA intervention in:	Contributes to:	Is managed with or by:	Is co-financed by:
Africa	Pan-African Climate for Development (ClimDev) initiative	AU, AfDB, UNECA	UK, Sweden, Norway
Bangladesh	Bangladesh Climate Change Resilience Fund (BCCRF)	World Bank	World Bank, Denmark, Sweden, UK, Switzerland
Cambodia	Cambodia Climate Change Alliance Trust Fund	UNDP	UNDP, Denmark, Sweden
Eastern and Southern Africa	Tripartite climate change adaptation and mitigation programme (COMESA – EAC – SADC)	COMESA	UK, Norway + The Rockefeller Foundation and USAID
Lower Mekong Basin	Mekong River Commission's Climate Change and Adaptation Initiative	Mekong River Commission	Australia, Germany, Denmark, Luxembourg, Sweden, Finland
Maldives	Climate Change Trust Fund	World Bank	World Bank, AusAid
Uganda	Joint donor basket fund for the water sector	FAO	N/A

### Managing for results and mutual accountability

For project-based interventions, the logical framework constitutes the reference for results-based monitoring and management. The GCCA aims to invest sufficient time and effort in logical framework development and quality assurance during project identification and

formulation, with a commitment to revise it as the project proceeds.

For (sector or general) budget support programmes, suitable climate change related indicators or disbursement criteria are included in the performance assessment framework. In line with the mainstreaming approach, environment and climate change do not need to be sectors themselves

to make use of budget support, but they do have to be relevant to the sectors at stake. The GCCA has experience in developing or selecting such indicators from the national monitoring system, with the aim of strengthening it. Examples include **Bhutan, Guyana, Lesotho, Mauritius, Rwanda, Samoa, Seychelles, and Solomon Islands** (See *Piloting budget support for climate change*).



Biogas plant in Tanzania

## Stories from the field

# Supporting water resource management in Belize



**Title:** GCCA – Enhancing Belize’s Resilience to Adapt to the Effects of Climate Change.

**Priority areas:** Adaptation and mainstreaming.

**Sector:** Overall development and poverty reduction and water and sanitation.

**Budget:** Total value: €3.2 million through a project approach. EU contribution: €2.9 million. Government of Belize and UNDP: €0.3 million.

**Partners:** Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, National Emergency Management Organisation, UNDP.

**“Belize’s vulnerability to the effects of climate change undermines the very basis of this economy, making the need for a comprehensive response by the Government and the country’s development sectors more critical.”**

Ambassador Paola Amadei, Head of EU Delegation to Jamaica, Belize, The Bahamas, Turks and Caicos Islands and Cayman Islands.

Belize is prone to recurrent hurricane damage, with associated tidal waves, floods and wind damage. This has potentially devastating consequences for the economy, which is based on agriculture, fishing, timber, and tourism. Changes in sea surface temperature and ocean circulation could affect marine organisms including corals, sea grasses, and fish stocks. A rise in sea level might lead to coastal erosion and land loss, flooding, soil salinisation, and intrusion of saltwater into groundwater aquifers.

The effective management of water resources in such a vulnerable, poor country is a particular concern. In 2009, the Government of Belize adopted simultaneously a National Integrated Water Management Policy and a National Adaptation Strategy to Address Climate Change in the Water Sector. The strategy provides a solid foundation for mainstreaming climate change into the sector.

The GCCA project in Belize has a broad objective to enhance the country’s adaptive capacity and resilience to the effects of climate change, and a particular focus on the water sector. A key objective is to support the country in its implementation of the Water Resources Act (2011) and its adaptation strategy.

The project will strengthen institutional capacities for adaptation and mitigation to climate change in the country on individual,

institutional and national systemic levels, addressing climate change policy matters in a coordinated way. It will support the establishment of a permanent climate change office within the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment that will provide economic, social and environmental expertise to help meet the Government’s objectives. Activities will include awareness raising and training, capacity development of water governance mechanisms to improve coordination between water resource managers and users and the development of a comprehensive National Climate Change Policy.

In addition, it will provide the legal basis for responsible management of the country’s water resource base. Planned interventions include national water resources vulnerability profiles and associated water safety plans as well as a number of pilot projects, which should result in better adaptation to, and mitigation of, climate change.

**Key achievements to date:** A wide-ranging programme of activities has been planned. These range from providing technical assistance on institutional development and institution financial sustainability to preparing National Water Resources Vulnerability profiles and associated Water Safety Plans.

Support to the water sector will be implemented to a large extent in the form of pilot, community-based



projects. Pilots include a scheme to build resilience among cattle producers through strategically placed protein and energy banks, developing model improved pastures for forage production, establishing holding pens for the safe relocation of animals during drought and flooding and training livestock management in good management practices.

Other pilot projects will allow the testing of approaches to flood risk management, through the introduction of watershed management measures and small-scale infrastructure works, and to soil erosion prevention, through land use management and replanting of damaged forests in strategic locations.

**Lessons learned:** The GCCA experience in Belize illustrates the

benefits of combining institutional, policy and field work (see *Combining institutional, policy and field work*). As an example, one of the field projects will look at guaranteeing a sustainable supply of water throughout the year, addressing water turbidity during the rainy season, salinisation and other aquifer contamination problems during the dry season. This pilot is expected to provide access to a secure and diversified water supply to more than 500 households; as well as applying varied adaptation techniques in the eight identified communities.

In order to support evidenced-based decision-making, the programme will also use integrated approaches to water management (see Box 8) and support the development of a water management system for monitoring the quality and quantity

of national water resources. This work will complement the strategic institutional and policy work undertaken with the water sector and on the issue of climate change more broadly.

**The way forward:** The project is in the process of hiring project staff, organising the procurement of materials and equipment and holding preparatory meetings with communities and project stakeholders. The pilot projects will then be launched and the institutional and policy work will be supported.

**Time line:** 2012 to 2014

## Stories from the field

# Improving livelihoods and food security in rural Uganda



**Title:** Global Climate Change Alliance: Adaptation to Climate Change in Uganda.

**Priority areas:** Adaptation and mainstreaming.

**Sector:** Agriculture.

**Budget:** €11 million (Fast start funding from Ireland) through the project approach.

**Partners:** The Food and Agriculture Organisation, the Ministry of Water and Environment, the joint Water and

Environment Sector Working Group and the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries.

Climate change poses a significant threat to Uganda because of its predicted effect on agriculture, food security and soil and water resources. The GCCA project is tackling this threat by focusing on the sustainable improvement of livelihoods and food security for the rural population. The aim is to strengthen the resilience of the rural population and the agricultural production systems in the central

part of the cattle corridor, and to build the capacities of communities, commercial farmers and the Government of Uganda to cope with climate change.

The project has three key components: strengthening knowledge and capacities for climate change adaptation; creating better access for livestock to water; and improving the resilience of agricultural production systems in the cattle corridor.

“We are not yet prepared to deal with climate change. We saw things happening that we didn’t understand. Now that we have things like floods, we have realised the need for preparations.”

Maria Mutagamba,  
Environment Minister,  
Government of Uganda, 2008.

The GCCA in Uganda is ensuring ownership and alignment by supporting the implementation of the National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA), particularly its components of water for production, drought adaptation, tree planting, and climate-compatible development planning. It will also help operationalising two climate-related objectives of the 2010 National Development Plan. By contributing to a joint donor basket fund for the water sector and joining hands with the FAO, the GCCA contributes to multi-donor efforts and initiatives.

The GCCA will help overcome constraints such as weaknesses in the institutional framework, insufficient political leadership and coordination, lack of expertise and poor capacity to forecast climate change forced weather patterns and impacts. To enhance Uganda’s climate change knowledge and capacities, the GCCA is concentrating on strengthening the institutional capacity of the Climate Change Unit of Ministry of Water and Environment, increasing climate change awareness and knowledge in selected departments and districts, and ensuring that good adaptation practices are integrated into policies and plans.

It is tackling the need for better access for livestock to water through a raft of ‘Water for Production’ investments. These include infrastructure developments and design improvements, the construction and rehabilitation of valley tanks and the piloting of small-scale irrigation projects as part of the multifunctional use of reservoirs. Support will also be provided to Water User Associations and Committees.

The programme is also supporting concrete actions to strengthen the resilience of rural populations and agricultural production systems in the central part of the cattle corridor, including activities aimed at mitigating the impact of water scarcity on livestock production systems, and at making livestock and coffee production systems more resilient to climate change impacts.

Aligned with the section below *Collecting, assessing and sharing evidence on climate and development*, activities in Uganda are being underpinned by an applied research programme aimed at achieving a more sustainable balance between livestock, pasture and water resources. The research will inform future decision-making.

**Key achievements to date:**

Good progress has been made in consultation and engagement with partners including local governments, ministries and other development partners. This has provided the opportunity to assess the potential for using existing structures and implementation modalities for the project, as well as assessing complementarities and alignment with existing projects and programmes.

Following the conclusion of the Memorandum of Understanding

between the FAO and the Government of Uganda in August 2012, the project has moved from inception to launch. The definition of all the key actions has been finalised, a monitoring and evaluation system has been established and major procurement of technical assistance and other core services has been undertaken.

**Lessons learned:** Experience shows the need to work closely with farmer groups and the private sector, which are the key drivers of agriculture and forestry in Uganda. In the water sector, lack of community involvement can be a cause of failure due to lack of ownership of infrastructure and poor operation and maintenance. Lack of coordination between institutions in charge of water and agriculture can also be an issue.

Generally speaking, broad stakeholder participation (see section below *Engaging a wide range of stakeholders, from communities to ministries of finance*), bottom-up planning and demand-driven approaches are important for the success of investments in agriculture. This is why the GCCA involves water user associations and committees in the work undertaken in Uganda.

**The way forward:** Following the launch of the programme in 2012, the GCCA in Uganda will implement its three components combining institutional strengthening with field operations. As an example, the ‘farmer field school’ approach will be used to develop and disseminate climate change adaptation packages to strengthen two key production systems, livestock and coffee. In addition, commercial-scale tree plantings for the production of fuel wood and charcoal will be promoted.

**Time line:** 2012 to 2016

# Lessons from experience

## Collecting, assessing and sharing evidence on climate and development

The GCCA experience highlights the importance of the collection, assessment and dissemination of data on current and expected future weather and climate patterns, climate risks, for example through mapping impacts, and the vulnerability of ecosystems, livelihoods and economic sectors more broadly.

Whether the focus is on mainstreaming, adaptation, DRR, REDD or CDM, getting a clear understanding of the multiple drivers or factors at stake, including social and environmental impacts, defining a baseline, and preparing for monitoring, reporting and verification, is key.

GCCA interventions frequently build on already available data, diagnoses and assessments, including those conducted as part of the NAPA process, or from the experience acquired through the implementation of other interventions. They also further support work in the field of data collection and management, as required by local circumstances.

The level at which information is collected varies, from the local level to the regional level. At the local level in **Nepal**, for example, climate change-relevant baselines will be established to support climate-resilient planning in the Karnali and Rapti watersheds. At the regional level in **Western Africa**, hydro-climatologic data are collected to serve the entire sub-region, and also in the **Lower Mekong** sub-region, vulnerability assessments are undertaken at the basin scale.

The focus of data collection also differs, depending on identified

needs, as illustrated in Box 5. The evidence is then critical to inform any mainstreaming effort (see *Mainstreaming climate change into development planning*).

## Combining institutional, policy and field work

GCCA experience emphasises the need to combine institutional and policy work with action on the ground. Such climate measures ensure that the policy documents and plans are being implemented and can in turn help raise awareness and inform the institutional or policy reforms, for example, by feeding back lessons from the field into policymaking or putting in place the adequate enabling conditions for successful scaling up of the field action. Including provisions for lesson learning and dissemination and successful replication of interventions on the ground is becoming a standard GCCA practice

In **Benin**, the acquisition of cartographic tools, and the strengthening of capacities of the National Geographical Institute, will support the mapping of the entire national territory. The new equipment and the updating of maps will help identify risk areas where settlements should not be allowed. Another expected result of the programme is the establishment of an early warning system for floods, which will improve disaster response capacity at the level of institutions and the population.

In **Burkina Faso**, the GCCA will help create a database of on-going studies and research projects on climate change in the country and Western Africa, disseminate their most relevant findings, and support the interconnection of various existing information systems, such as early warning systems linked to food security and natural disasters.

In the **Pacific**, applied research will be undertaken with a focus on better understanding the degree and nature of the vulnerability of the communities of various sizes which occupy particularly vulnerable locations, for example, atolls and river deltas, and on developing tools needed for assessing vulnerability and developing adaptation plans. The programme also supports the development of a Climate Change Knowledge Centre at the University of the South Pacific.

In **Timor-Leste**, the GCCA will help improve the capacity of ALGIS (the Agriculture and Land Use Geographic Information System) to collect and monitor climate data in all 13 districts, analyse it through agro-ecological perspectives, and disseminate their interpretation at both local and national level.

**Box 5: GCCA experience – Collecting, assessing and sharing evidence**

In **Burkina Faso**, the GCCA intervention aims to improve climate change governance in relation to sustainable forest management and the REDD+ process, including through the mainstreaming of sustainable environmental management and climate change into the planning and legal frameworks of the forest sector. To complement this approach, the GCCA will finance concrete projects including REDD pilot projects at the local level, in collaboration with local authorities and civil society.

In the **Eastern Caribbean**, the GCCA will help establish or reinforce the regional and national land management systems by providing appropriate climate change-oriented institutional and regulatory frameworks. These frameworks are expected to include regulations to protect and/or restore ecological buffers, regulations to phase out development in high-hazard areas, strict building codes, and the establishment of coastal construction baselines. Pilot projects in coastal protection, ecosystem restoration and rehabilitation, soil conservation, reforestation, flood mitigation, land and river bank stabilisation, and water conservation will inform the development of the frameworks.

In **Lao PDR**, village-level demonstration activities aimed at increasing the adaptive capacity of local communities, farming systems and livelihoods will create a body of evidence that can help place climate change-related issues higher on the agenda of the government. The experience and knowledge acquired through the implementation of grassroots activities will be consolidated for communication to decision makers in the relevant sectors, and disseminated via the Sub-Sector Working Group on Environment.

In **Senegal**, the implementation of activities in the field of coastal zone management was deemed indispensable to the institutional and technical work undertaken in relation to the setting up of ICZM. A number of projects involving coastal communities in vulnerable areas of the coastline will be implemented.

#### Box 6: GCCA experience – Combining institutional, policy and field work

and is systematically included in any new programme. Examples are presented in Box 6.

This dual approach is also often taken when it comes to mainstreaming climate change considerations in national or sector development planning and budgeting (see *Mainstreaming climate change into development planning*).

### Engaging a wide range of stakeholders, from communities to ministries of finance

Climate change action requires the involvement of a wide range of stakeholders from within and outside the government.

These include central ministries like finance and planning, sector ministries, local authorities, civil society organisations, academia, the private sector, the media and

parliamentarians, as illustrated in Box 7.

### Promoting integrated approaches

Integrated approaches, which take a holistic view and bring together all the main stakeholders, can be particularly useful to address complex issues such as coastal zone management, ecosystem management, climate change adaptation in rural development, or DRR.

Since they tend to be inclusive and based on participatory approaches, they also provide an opportunity to engage local communities and the private sector (see above on *Engaging a wide range of stakeholders, from communities to ministries of finance*).

In the **Pacific region** in particular, a consensus on the need to better integrate adaptation and DRR was one of the highlights of the EU-Pacific high-level policy dialogue

organised under GCCA auspices in March 2011, in Vanuatu. This is the approach taken in the various programmes in the region, as discussed in Box 9.

In **DR Congo**, the development of wood fuel plantations, at different scales and by various actors is encouraged, including village communities, small private landowners and private investors. Stakeholders such as civil society organisations and the media will also be involved in capacity building activities, in recognition of their role in forest management and protection.

In **Ethiopia**, one component of the programme is focused on developing a knowledge base that allows stakeholders at all levels to build resilience to climate change impacts. This stems from recognition that capacity enhancement is needed for public institutions, but also private companies and other non-state actors, so that all stakeholders are in a position to fulfil their institutional roles or mandates and contribute to the national objective of achieving climate-resilient, low-emission development. Other national partners involved in the programme include the Environmental Protection Authority and the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development.

In **Guyana**, a strong emphasis is placed on community involvement, which is deemed important in terms of both protection and mangrove monitoring. Community members are paid to cultivate mangrove seedlings on their land. They have already produced 220,000 black mangrove seedlings for planting. A women's producers group has been established to promote alternative livelihoods, based in particular on the sale of non-timber forest products, honey from beekeeping and other nature-based produce. The involvement of a private sector champion with experience in starting and successfully promoting a range of organic food and beauty products produced by Amerindian communities has been instrumental in the success of the programme.

In **Tanzania**, the GCCA action focuses on the capacity of the most vulnerable communities to adapt to the adverse effects of climate change through sustainable use of their natural resources. The approach is to support a number of eco-villages where innovative adaptation measures are tested in the fields of agriculture, rangeland management, water management, sanitation and biomass energy. The programme involves the Vice President's Office Division of Environment, the Ministry of Finance, line ministries, the Institute of Rural Development Planning, the Sokoine University of Agriculture, as well as local authorities. Results are to be integrated into policy making, in line with the on-going decentralisation process.

#### **Box 7: GCCA experience – Engaging a wide range of stakeholders**

In **Belize**, watershed and 'ridge-to-reef' approaches are promoted. For instance, trees, crops and mangroves will be replanted in strategic locations to prevent or limit soil erosion and coastal degradation, which are drivers of water resources degradation. A water resources assessment will also be conducted to inform a master plan for integrated water resources management.

In **Tanzania**, the GCCA supports the testing of holistic, integrated approaches to the sustainable use of natural resources, based on the understanding that agriculture and forestry are interlinked with a range of other sectors, such as energy, water management and sanitation.

In **Senegal** and the **Gambia**, the GCCA promotes the establishment of an integrated coastal zone management system, as a way of addressing all the components that have an influence on coastal dynamics, for which inter-sectoral coordination is required. This involves the development of the institutional and legal framework for managing coastal zones. In both countries, the GCCA supports the development of data management systems to inform the ICZM process, and will soon start supporting the implementation of pilot and/or research projects focused on increasing the resilience of coastal communities and rehabilitation of coastal zone ecosystems.

#### **Box 8: GCCA experience – Ecosystem based adaptation and integrated approaches**

In **Solomon Islands**, the government has brought both the Climate Change Office and National Disaster Management Office under the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Meteorology. This was done to rationalise and strengthen coherence in the design and implementation of adaptation and DRR policies. The National Disaster Risk Management Plan explicitly integrates climate change and reflects some NAPA priorities. GCCA budget support helps strengthen the institutions in charge of implementing this plan, and also emphasises the need to mainstream climate change adaptation and DRR into national and sector strategies, starting with the Medium-Term Development Strategy and the National Transport Plan, and into the national budget. The disbursement criteria chosen for the budget support programme encourage steps in this direction.

In **Vanuatu**, support is provided to the National Advisory Board (NAB) for Disaster Risk Management and Climate Change, a newly created body integrating the functions of two pre-existing bodies, the multi-sectoral National Advisory Committee on Climate Change and National Task Force for Disaster Risk Reduction and Disaster Management. The NAB Secretariat, under the Vanuatu Meteorological and Geohazards Department, is being reinforced, with the help of external expertise, to address simultaneously DRR and climate change adaptation and support the mainstreaming of both topics into key sectors.

**Box 9: GCCA experience – Integrating adaptation and DRR**



Energy efficient stove, Tanzania

# Mainstreaming Climate Change into Development Planning

## National and regional programmes

Mainstreaming climate change into poverty reduction and development strategies is one of the main priorities of the GCCA.

Programmes that focus on climate change mainstreaming are under way or under preparation in 22 regions and countries including **Bhutan**, **Cambodia** and **Lesotho**.

In GCCA-funded programmes, mainstreaming is most often combined with other GCCA priorities,

in particular adaptation and/or DRR such as in **Belize**, **Ethiopia**, **Laos**, **Mozambique**, **Nepal**, **The Gambia**, **Uganda**, **Samoa**, **Solomon Islands**, and **Vanuatu**, but also REDD in **Mali** and promoting an enhanced participation in the global carbon market in **Mauritius** and **Seychelles**.

Mainstreaming programmes also often include data collection and management and policy relevant research, for example, in the form of vulnerability assessments, data collection and management, to inform the mainstreaming and institutional strengthening effort (See Box 10).

National mainstreaming programmes are also supported by regional programmes focusing on the capacity building, piloting, learning, and dissemination elements of the effort, such as in **Western Africa**, **Eastern** and **southern Africa**, the **Lower Mekong River Basin** and **South Pacific**.

In **Ethiopia**, the GCCA supports the development of climate modelling systems that operate at downscaled levels, to produce local climate change scenario projections and to underpin the development of early warning systems. The Environmental Protection Authority also plans to set up an easily accessible database and knowledge management system to share experience and good practices in tackling climate change, which will also inform its mainstreaming work.

In **The Gambia**, the GCCA supports the establishment of an information management system at the National Environment Agency, including a geographic information system, to allow analysis of historical and new data relevant to integrated coastal zone management and adaptation. Tools such as feasibility studies, vulnerability assessment and economic analysis will also be used to enhance the body of evidence on which to base strategic choices and planning decisions.

In **Vanuatu**, support is provided for the development of early warning and monitoring systems that help build the ability of farmers to cope with critical situations, such as flooding. The mapping of high-risk areas is also promoted as an input to evidence-based land use planning, for example, to avoid expanding settlements into flood-prone areas.

### Box 10: GCCA experience – Policy relevant research in support of mainstreaming

## Mainstreaming workshops

To complement the programmes, the GCCA has organised a series of 10 regional workshops on mainstreaming climate change into national development planning and budgeting, in Asia, Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific. Over 190 senior officials from ministries of finance, planning and environment and regional organisations have participated in these workshops. This far-sighted initiative has provided planners and decision makers responsible for national policymaking and budgeting with the tools and

expertise to promote the integration of climate change in their countries' development policies and budgets, as illustrated by Box 11.

There is a strong demand to replicate the workshops at regional and national level. Requests have come from **Benin, Comoros, Guinea Conakry, Dominica, French Polynesia, Madagascar** and **Sao Tome e Principe**. The GCCA has already started addressing the demand starting with a workshop customised for the Overseas Countries and Territories in January 2012, and with a future focus on Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific.

*“I am in favour of initiatives like the Asian training workshop. It helps with knowledge sharing and lesson learning and we get to see the linkages between opportunities, challenges and constraints.”*

Ranjan Shrestha, EU Delegation to the Kingdom of Nepal, speaking at the GCCA Asia climate change mainstreaming workshop, March 2012.

Timely GCCA initiatives have kept the Caribbean island of **Dominica** on track with its climate change agenda. As a Small Island Developing State (SIDS), Dominica is considered highly vulnerable to the effects of climate change, with around 70 per cent of the country's 70,000 population living in coastal areas. The Government of Dominica, with technical and financial support from the Caribbean Development Bank, is preparing a new National Land Use Policy (NLUP) and a National Physical Development Plan (NPDP). Terms of Reference had been drafted by the Physical Planning Division (Ministry of Environment, Natural Resources, Physical Planning and Fisheries) and submitted to the bank in January 2012. However, when the Chief Physical Planner attended the regional GCCA workshop on climate change mainstreaming in Jamaica in April 2012, the planner realised the need to integrate climate change aspects into these two new policy documents.

The GCCA was asked to carry out a preparatory vulnerability assessment, to elaborate a document with priority actions that should be undertaken to reduce the current vulnerability, and to highlight climate change aspects relevant to the development of the two policy papers. The outputs of this GCCA support can also be used in the strategic programme for climate resilience that Dominica is formulating. A GCCA training workshop on climate change mainstreaming will also be organised for senior officials of all sectors involved in the plans. The workshop will enable the beneficiaries to mainstream Climate Change in their respective sector strategies and implementation programmes that will be elaborated on the basis of the new NLUP and NPDP.

### **Box 11: GCCA Experience – Mainstreaming workshops lead to concrete action in Dominica**



## Stories from the field

# Mainstreaming climate change in Nepal



**Title:** Nepal Climate Change Support Programme: Building Climate Resilience in Nepal.

**Priority areas:** Mainstreaming and adaptation.

**Sector:** Overall development and poverty reduction.

**Budget:** €16.5 million (fast start funding from the European Commission: € 7 million; fast start funding from Cyprus: €0.6 million). Other contributions: UK Department for International Development: €7.9 million of joint co-financing.

**Partners:** Ministry of Environment, UK Department for International Development, UNDP.

**“Despite the fact that the mountainous countries’ share in global emissions, the major factor of climate change, is negligible, they are the ones that are being affected the most, along with small island nations.”**

Honourable Madhav Kumar Nepal, Former Prime Minister of Nepal

Recent climatic trends and observations in Nepal include increases in temperature, an upward shift of agro-ecological zones, and changes in wind, frost, dew, precipitation and snowfall patterns, as well as increases in extreme weather events such as droughts and floods, and avalanches. The Himalayan glaciers are retreating as

temperatures increase. All this entails risks for a poor country with an economy very dependent on natural resources, particularly in terms of agricultural productivity and food security, availability of water, nutrition, health and sanitation. Glacial lake outburst floods are also a threat to population and infrastructure.

The GCCA project aims to enable the Government of Nepal to develop climate change policies and actions that enhance the benefits and sustainability of public and public-private development efforts. The focus is on strengthening the Government’s capacity to develop, cost, budget and implement evidence-based policy and measures aimed at mainstreaming climate change in the key development sectors of agriculture, forestry, water and energy. This will be done at the central level as well as Village Development and District Development Committees in 14 mid and far-west regions, taking an ecosystem and livelihood perspective.

At the national level, the project aims to prepare and implement policies, plans and strategies, to develop the skills required to access, manage and disburse climate change financing,

to strengthen negotiation skills at national and international levels to support adaptation and low carbon development and to promote sharing and learning among stakeholders at district and national levels. At the subnational level, the project seeks to assist the Government in implementing NAPA prioritised activities through the national framework on Local Adaptation Plans for Action (LAPA) to provide effective delivery of adaptation services to the most climate vulnerable communities. The project has a strong commitment to women’s empowerment and the inclusion of the poor and disadvantaged groups.

### **Key achievements to date:**

Following a thorough review of relevant policies and technical documents, meetings have taken place with experts, consultants, development departments and ministries including the Ministry of Environment, Science and Technology to set up a Project Management Unit. The baseline, capacity development, and monitoring and evaluation framework have been prepared. The Technical Assistance document has been prepared. It includes clarification of all implementation mechanisms, technical assistance requirements

and the initial stages of LAPA/Nepal Climate Change Support Programme implementation in the 14 districts.

**Lessons learned:** In Nepal, GCCA activities target simultaneously the national and sub-national levels. The technical and institutional capacities of village and district development committees will be strengthened, in recognition of the importance of sub-national institutions for the implementation of adaptation measures. The district and national level will both be targeted by awareness campaigns and knowledge-sharing activities. The programme will support the translation of NAPA-prioritised activities into Local Adaptation Plans for Action (LAPAs). These LAPAs are essential in Nepal, given the vast climatic and social variability. The approach also ensures that climate change adaptation is integrated into

local development processes through local government and community-based organisations.

The approach here includes support to civil society and local and national government to pilot innovative mechanisms of adaptation, and to test the convergence of mitigation and adaptation options. Projects are expected to promote low-carbon livelihoods, diversification and private sector investment in clean developments, especially through forest management, water resource management and alternative energy development. Public-private partnerships will be encouraged.

This will ensure that the translation of NAPA priorities takes account of the variation in climatic and social conditions across the country and contribute to livelihoods and rural development (see Boxes 12 and 15).

**The way forward:** The project will develop a climate change relevant baseline that will support effective decision making and scaling out of climate adaptation and resilient planning in Mid and Far West Regions. The baseline will also include the mapping of local level institutions and their capacities in terms of verifying and monitoring the impacts of climate change and assessing the effectiveness of intervention measures. The project will further develop and implement local level adaptation plans in 14 districts and enable access to financing to civil society and local and national governments to enable them to pilot innovative mechanisms of adaptation options.

**Time line:** 2012 to 2015

## Stories from the field

# Protecting coastal zones and mainstreaming in The Gambia



**Title:** GCCA support project to The Gambia for Integrated Coastal Zone Management and the Mainstreaming of Climate Change.

**Priority areas:** Mainstreaming and adaptation.

**Sector:** Overall development and poverty reduction and coastal zone management.

**Budget:** €3.86 million (fast start funding from the European Commission) through the project

approach with partially decentralised management.

**Partners:** Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs with the support of the NAO Support Unit, National Environment Agency, Department of Water Resources, Ministry of Forestry and Environment.

Gambia's low-lying coastal areas are particularly vulnerable to the effects of climate change and coastal erosion is a serious problem that is expected to be exacerbated by sea level rise.

A one-metre increase in sea level would result in 92 km<sup>2</sup> of The Gambia's coastal zone being inundated, with the entire capital city of Banjul at risk. Further inland, soil salinisation and saline intrusion is already affecting farming.

The Gambia's commitment to tackling the effects of climate change is reflected in a number of communication and action plans. However the country lacks an overarching climate change policy defining strategic priorities

to guide actions and investments. Nevertheless coastal adaptation is widely recognised as a priority.

The aim of the GCCA intervention in The Gambia is to strengthen the capability of the Government and the people to adapt to increased climate variability and change. It consists of two components – coastal adaptation to climate change, and mainstreaming climate change into development.

**“The Gambia government will not fail in its commitment to bring about and pursue relevant national programmes and projects necessary to help us confront the issue of climate change sufficiently.”**

Dr Isatou Njie-Saidy, Vice President of The Gambia and Secretary of State for Women’s Affairs, giving the keynote speech at a Gambia Climate Change Forum, 2008.

In the coastal management component, the aim is to establish a participatory, sustainable, integrated coastal zone management process. Priority coastal zone adaptation measures will be identified and local level adaptive capacity to climate change will be strengthened. On the mainstreaming element, the aim is to strengthen the knowledge base for integrating climate change into key sectors and to formulate a national climate change policy. Institutional arrangements and coordination mechanisms will be rationalised and the climate change adaptation response capacity of policy makers and planners, National Assembly members and civil society representatives will be strengthened.

Under the first component, specific activities planned include establishing a Technical Working Group of key coastal actors, which will facilitate a multi-sector dialogue, monitoring the implementation of activities, developing a vision, objectives and future options, and overseeing the implementation of the chosen options. Other activities will include capacity building, for example in coastal monitoring, training, establishing an information management system, and a targeted awareness campaign. There will be feasibility studies looking at protection options for the entire Atlantic coast, viable alternatives to sand mining and demonstration and research projects in a number of areas.

Mainstreaming activities will include the Technical Working Group facilitating multi-sector dialogue, scoping issues and studies, analysing sector needs, defining guiding principles and a national climate change policy

**Key achievements to date:** Terms of reference for a €1.4 million service contract have been finalised for the procurement of a large portion of the project’s technical expertise. It is expected that the first experts will start their assignment in March 2013. It has been decided that the Department of Water Resources will be the lead institution on mainstreaming.

**Lessons learned:** Coordination is hindered by the absence of an overarching framework and by overlapping institutional mandates. The GCCA programme therefore brings stakeholders together to define coordination roles and functions with regard to both ICZM and climate change, and to develop bridges between ICZM and climate change coordination. The involvement of civil society is promoted as an integral

component of the ICZM process, as well as in the demonstration projects.

Information and data related to climate change and coastal management in The Gambia is scattered, often held outside the country and not available to decision makers. Demonstration and research can help strengthen local-level capacity to adapt to climate change, and enhance ecosystem and livelihood resilience to climate change. An information management system will also allow analysis of historical and new data relevant to ICZM and adaptation. The project will also make use of tools such as feasibility studies, vulnerability assessment and economic analysis to enhance the body of evidence on which to base strategic choices and planning decisions.

The GCCA in The Gambia emphasises the value of combining institutional, policy and field work, stakeholders’ engagement, applied research in support of mainstreaming, as well as improving inter-sectoral and national-local coordination (see Boxes 6, 7, 10, 14 respectively).

**The way forward:** The procurement document for the Technical Advisers needs to be finalised. The Department of Water Resources, which is the lead institution for mainstreaming, will nominate a focal point and part-time coordinator. The National Environment Agency will decide the full-time coordinator through open recruitment for the coastal zone management component. The Department of Water Resources and the National Environment Agency will elaborate Terms of Reference for the Technical Working Groups. A communication event will be organised to officially launch the project. Operations are due to start in March 2013.

**Time line:** 2012 to 2016

# Lessons from experience

## Positioning climate change as a development and livelihood issue to motivate political action

Based on the GCCA experience, stressing and demonstrating the linkages between climate change, development and livelihoods is an important way to raise awareness and advocate for climate change mainstreaming among decision-makers and within the wider public, civil society and the media.

**Cambodia, Mauritius, Seychelles** and **Nepal** provide interesting examples, as shown in Box 12.

## Strengthening institutions, procedures and systems

Feedback from GCCA interventions across the world points to a variety of potential barriers to the effective mainstreaming of climate change. These include overlapping mandates and the absence of an overarching framework; a lack of political leverage

by the organisation officially in charge of coordinating the response to climate change; weaknesses in the communication and coordination mechanisms between ministries, and between the national and sub-national levels; complex institutional frameworks, characterised by the large number of actors involved and linked to the cross-cutting nature of climate change; inadequate legal and regulatory frameworks; human and financial resource limitations in government services, aggravated by slow recruitment for key positions, recruitment freezes, low salaries and a high rate of staff turnover; limited management skills; and the limited availability of specialised technical expertise.

All these may constitute obstacles to the integration of climate-related considerations into key policies and strategies and their follow up, the sharing of lessons learned, the scaling-up of successful initiatives, and the allocation of resources to adaptation and mitigation priorities.

GCCA programmes attempt to alleviate these issues in various ways, by strengthening individual capacities and the institutions concerned with climate change, including the

integration of climate change in procedures and systems, (see Box 13), and by fostering inter-sectoral and national-local coordination, as illustrated in Box 14.

## Combining mainstreaming at national and local levels

Besides GCCA mainstreaming at the national and sector levels, mainstreaming at sub-national level complement national-level undertakings and enhances the chance of concrete implementation of national-level decisions. It also provides an opportunity to take better account of local realities at the interface between climate change and development. Box 15 provides examples of GCCA experience with local level mainstreaming.

## Mainstreaming in the budgetary and development monitoring system from the onset

Climate change action cannot be effective and sustainable unless

In **Cambodia**, the Cambodia Climate Change Alliance has supported the preparation and dissemination of a study illustrating the perceptions of climate change in Cambodian society, and a Human Development Report focused on building the climate resilience of rural livelihoods. Both create opportunities for increased communication and public debate on climate change impacts.

In **Mauritius** and **Seychelles**, national development strategies include objectives such as reduced dependence on imported fuels and increased energy security. This provides a rationale for mainstreaming climate change mitigation into the energy sector through increased use of renewable energies and energy efficiency.

In **Nepal**, pilot projects that test the convergence of mitigation and adaptation options, in the field of forest management, water resources management and alternative energy development, are expected to support livelihood diversification and the creation of green jobs, thus contributing to rural development.

**Box 12: GCCA experience – Climate change as a development issue**

In **Cambodia**, institutions for coordinating the response to climate change had already been set up before the start of the GCCA programme. They include the inter-ministerial National Climate Change Committee and the National Committee for Disaster Management. GCCA support aims to strengthen these institutions, particularly in the coordination of national policy making, capacity development, outreach and advocacy efforts; the monitoring of the implementation of the national climate change strategy, policy and plans; and preparation for the establishment of a nationally-owned climate change trust fund.

In **Uganda**, climate change is addressed in the 2010 National Development Plan, which sets four objectives relating to this topic. GCCA funding will help deliver the objectives relating to developing national capacities for adaptation and mitigation, and ensuring climate-proof development. Capacity development efforts will target the Climate Change Unit under the Ministry of Water and Environment, which has been overstretched by the international agenda, and is also constrained by a relatively low political profile. The latter includes the development of mainstreaming guidelines.

In **Mozambique**, the GCCA provides support for expanding the geographic and thematic scope of environmental impact assessments, environmental audits and inspections, and for increasing the use of strategic environmental assessment, so that both environmental sustainability and issues related to climate change adaptation and mitigation are better taken into account.

#### **Box 13: GCCA experience – Strengthening institutions, and their administrative procedures and systems**

In the **Lao PDR**, decentralisation has created divergence in the implementation of national policies, and *de facto* governance problems. At sub-national level, central policies and instructions are not always fully adhered to, which may hinder the achievement of objectives. To address this problem, the GCCA intervention puts specific emphasis on strengthening coordination across levels of government, and on planning and information exchange at the district and provincial levels.

In **Mozambique**, one of the identified obstacles to the implementation of environmental sustainability measures is the lack of political leverage of the Ministry of Coordination of Environmental Action over other line ministries, compounded by insufficient technical capacity and financial resources. GCCA support aims to strengthen its leadership and mandatory role as the focal point in environmental affairs, and reinforce cross-sectoral coordination mechanisms.

#### **Box 14: GCCA experience – Improving inter-sectoral and national-local coordination**

In **Nepal**, GCCA activities target simultaneously the national and sub-national levels. The technical and institutional capacities of village and district development committees will be strengthened, in recognition of the importance of sub-national institutions for the implementation of adaptation measures. The district and national level will both be targeted by awareness campaigns and knowledge-sharing activities. The programme will support the translation of NAPA-prioritised activities into Local Adaptation Plans for Action (LAPAs). These LAPAs are essential in Nepal, given the vast climatic and social variability. The approach also ensures that climate change adaptation is integrated into local development processes through local government and community-based organisations.

In **Timor-Leste**, the GCCA will help communities draft local soil and water conservation plans, consistent with watershed management principles. These plans will then be integrated in sub-district and district development plans, to ensure the actual implementation of proposed measures. This complements activities undertaken at national level, in particular the updating of national policies and plans taking into account regional variations in vulnerability and the adoption of best practices for climate resilience.

#### **Box 15: GCCA experience – Mainstreaming at the local level**

resources are allocated and spent on the actual implementation of policies and measures. Mainstreaming climate change into the budgetary and financing processes can significantly enhance resource allocation and spending for climate-related priorities.

In addition, mainstreaming in budgetary processes and systems helps partner countries prepare the ground for receiving climate-related budget support or accessing other sources of climate finance,

by strengthening national policies, institutions and systems, and therefore the absorptive capacities of the country. Likewise, the actual provision of budget support can act as an incentive to further the mainstreaming process by focusing on improving strategies or on achieving mainstreaming-related disbursement criteria (See *Piloting budget support for climate change*).

A number of GCCA programmes have already started addressing these issues, in parallel with

climate change mainstreaming into policymaking and planning, as illustrated in Box 16.

Likewise, mainstreaming climate change into monitoring systems is vital for the success of the mainstreaming process, as it provides an incentive to define clear objectives and a way of checking progress achieved against targets, while strengthening the country's own systems. Several GCCA programmes demonstrate the effectiveness of this, as illustrated in Box 17.

In **Cambodia**, the national Climate Change Alliance to which the GCCA contributes has undertaken a Climate Change Public Expenditure and Institutional Review (CPEIR). In addition, the Cambodia Climate Change Alliance Trust Fund is expected to develop a scalable grant mechanism for providing financial support to climate change initiatives on the ground, and to explore the legal framework and design options for the establishment of a nationally owned trust fund. This, in turn, combined with institutional strengthening, potentially paves the way for budget support feeding a future national climate change trust fund.

In **Mozambique**, the GCCA supports the strengthening of financial management capacity in the environment sector. This is expected to help prepare the ground for higher budget allocations and improved budget execution with regard to environment and climate change.

In **Nepal**, programme activities include carrying out detailed economic and social appraisal, governance and fiduciary risk assessment, with the aim of addressing public financial management and other weaknesses and enabling the country to receive future climate-related funding in the form of sector budget support rather than project support.

In **Solomon Islands**, through the choice of disbursement criteria, the budget support programme requires that a minimum amount of financial resources be allocated to the first priority of the NAPA. Through this temporary and special provision - as budget support is theoretically not to be earmarked for specific actions - the programme indirectly promotes the integration of climate-related considerations in the budget preparation and management process.

#### Box 16: GCCA experience - Mainstreaming climate change in the budgetary and financing processes

In **Bhutan**, based on the identification of some weaknesses in monitoring the performance of the Renewable Natural Resources policy and strategy, improvement in sector monitoring and the quality of statistical data has been made a criterion for sector progress and disbursement of the variable tranche of budget support.

In **Burkina Faso**, the GCCA will support the establishment of a National Observatory on Environment and Sustainable Development, which will be in charge of developing national climate change-related indicators.

In the **Lower Mekong Basin** programme, planned activities include the development of a system for monitoring and reporting on the status of climate change adaptation in the Mekong region.

In **Mozambique**, the environmental monitoring system is being strengthened with GCCA support in order to adequately measure sector performance, promote good governance practices and improve compliance with legal and regulatory requirements - and also to provide a clear reference for enhanced coordination and linkages between all government and non-state actors, at central, provincial and district level.

#### Box 17: GCCA experience - Mainstreaming climate change in the country monitoring system



Rock armouring at Anse Marie Louise, Mahe, The Seychelles



Prize winning non-timber forest products, Guyana

# Piloting Budget Support for Climate Change

“Budget support can offer an efficient way of addressing crosscutting, long-term and structural challenges and threats, such as vulnerability, climate change and other environmental shocks.”

The Future Approach to EU Budget Support to Third Countries, Communication from the European Commission, 13 October 2011

As climate change finance is expected to increase in the coming years, budget support provides promising opportunities to align and strengthen countries’ strategies and systems, and to improve their absorptive capacity, creating a multiplier effect. Through on-going policy dialogue at the country level,

budget support also provides an excellent avenue to put climate change at the core of national development planning, making it a central issue for the government, sectors and subnational authorities.

Depending on the priorities at stake, climate change budget support can address the inclusion of climate change in poverty reduction and development in general - in several sectors, or in a key sector. In all these cases, the common set of eligibility criteria relate to progress on macro-economic stability, public financial management and implementation of the strategy at stake. For general budget support, the reference strategy will be a national development strategy or plan. When focusing on a sector, the reference will be the policy of the targeted sector. Objectives with regard to the reported strategy can be defined in terms of the

strengthened integration of climate change in policy or strategy documents and/or the development of a climate change strategy in itself. The definition of climate related indicators or criteria for disbursement completes the approach.

Diagram 6 presents the distribution of aid modalities adopted by the GCCA, showing that the GCCA has over 25% of country programmes adopting the sector budget support or general budget support approach.

There are currently four GCCA programmes using general budget support to mainstream climate change into national development policies. Interventions in **Mauritius** and **Seychelles** also support energy-based mitigation including enhanced participation in the CDM. In the planned intervention in **Lesotho**, the focus of the adaptation-related component

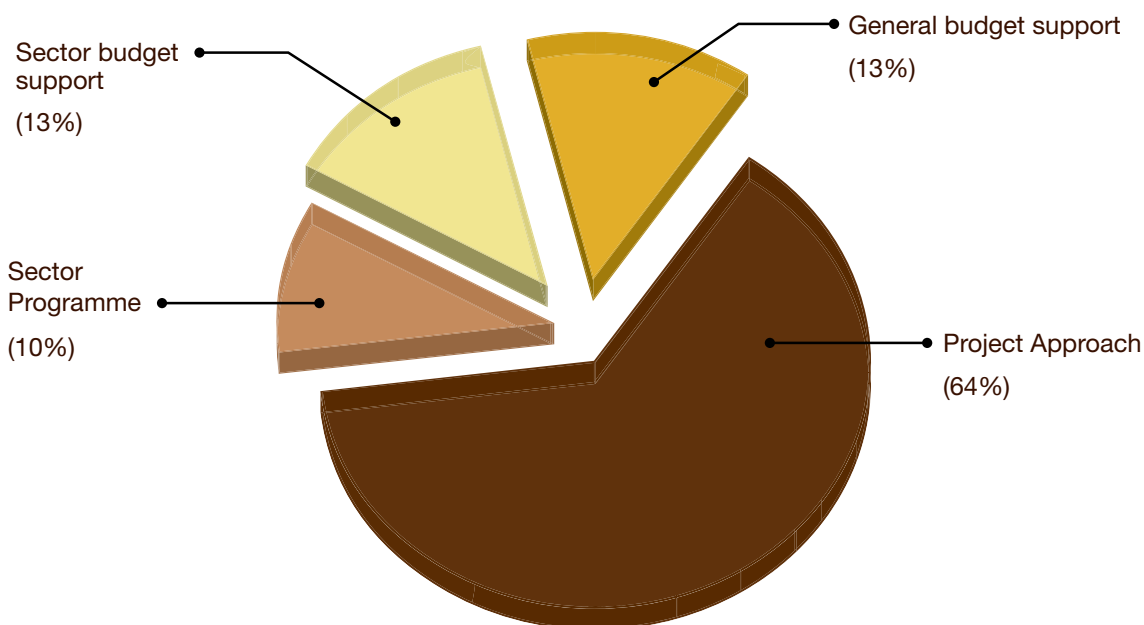


Diagram 6: Distribution of aid modalities used by GCCA interventions to 2012



is primarily on agriculture, while energy is the focus of the mitigation-related component. In the **Solomon Islands**, the focus is on adaptation across various sectors, and in particular in the transport sector, as well as DRR.

The sector programmes supported through sector budget support focus on the natural resource sector in **Bhutan**, forestry through mangrove-based coastal zone protection in **Guyana**, land use tenure in **Rwanda**, and the water and sanitation sector in **Samoa**.

One key feature of the various budget support programmes is the strengthening of the policy, as well as legal and regulatory frameworks as illustrated by the examples in Box 18.

In **Guyana**, the policy framework is generally supportive of mangrove protection and rehabilitation. Nevertheless, mangroves remain somewhat neglected as a forest ecosystem. One of the expected results from implementation of the National Mangrove Management Action Plan, the implementation of which is supported by the GCCA, is that they are fully considered in the new draft of the Forest Plan. In this context, the quality and effectiveness of regulations protecting mangroves will be reviewed. The programme also supports the formulation of a code of practice for mangrove management.

In **Mauritius**, one of the key objectives of the budget support programme was the adoption and enactment of an Energy Efficiency Bill, and also of a new Building Control Bill setting out requirements for sustainable buildings. Strengthening the legal and regulatory framework covering these two areas was considered essential for the successful mainstreaming of climate change, in particular energy-related aspects, in the national development process.

In **Seychelles**, where one of the identified issues was the lack of a legal framework allowing participation in the CDM, the mitigation component of the GCCA programme focuses specifically on the creation of an institutional and legal framework conducive to the adoption of mitigation measures in the energy sector and access to carbon finance mechanisms.

#### Box 18: GCCA experience – Strengthening policy, legal and regulatory frameworks

## Stories from the field

# Enhancing renewable natural resources in Bhutan



**Title:** GCCA – Climate Change Adaptation in the Renewable Natural Resources Sector.

**Priority areas:** Mainstreaming.

**Sectors:** Overall development and poverty reduction and agriculture

**Budget:** Total budget: € 4.40 million (Fast start funding from the European Commission: €3.6 million; Fast start funding from Estonia: €0.8 million). Aid modality is sector budget support.

**Partners:** Ministry of Agriculture and Forests; The Gross National Happiness Division.

Climate change is already affecting livelihoods and rural economies in Bhutan, where development

is highly dependent on climate-sensitive sectors such as agriculture, hydropower and forestry. One of the most significant threats is the formation of supra-glacial lakes due to the accelerated retreat of glaciers as temperatures rise. Bhutan's

entire northern region has snow-fed lakes near its mountaintops, with the majority of the population and infrastructure in large river valleys. The risk of disaster is mounting as the water level of several glacier lakes approach critical geostatic thresholds.

The Government of Bhutan is committed to combating climate change and environmental conservation is part of its development philosophy of Gross National Happiness. The GCCA programme in Bhutan targets the Renewable Natural Resources (RNR) sector, and agriculture in particular. The programme aims to enhance the climate change readiness of the RNR sector by mainstreaming climate change into the sector and ensuring steps are taken to address climate change adaptation at multi-sectoral level.

The GCCA intervention is a sector programme funded through sector budget support, therefore the focus is on results rather than activities. The expected outcome includes the development of a RNR Climate Change Action Plan, the mainstreaming of this action plan into the 11th Five Year Plan, and a strengthened institutional framework, allowing a multi-sectoral approach to climate change adaptation, for example with an improved national planning and monitoring system. In Bhutan, the mainstreaming of climate change into the 11th Five-Year Plan for the RNR sector is also expected to result in the implementation of concrete adaptation measures in the agricultural sector. In the third and fourth year of the GCCA budget support programme, specific disbursement criteria are related to the implementation of agricultural practices that reduce vulnerability and/or reduce greenhouse gas emissions (see Box 20).

**Key achievements to date:** As a consequence of the crosscutting nature of climate change, responsibility for climate change actions in Bhutan is shared among several ministries, departments and agencies. This makes climate change coordination a complex process. Through its involvement in the RNR Sector Programme, the EU is taking the lead in establishing a formal and active sector and donor coordination mechanism in the field of agriculture and natural resource management. As a result of GCCA involvement, the EU will also foster coordination between this mechanism, the multi-sector task force on climate change set up by the government, and the on-going activities of the Joint Support Programme, a multi-donor initiative aimed at mainstreaming the poverty–environment–climate change nexus into the policies and plans of all ministries and at all government levels. The EU is therefore contributing significantly to improving inter-sectoral and national-local coordination (see section *Strengthening institutions, procedures and systems*).

**Lessons learned:** A challenge encountered in the formulation phase is the crosscutting nature of the climate change theme and difficulties faced when trying to define it as a sector and link it to one single Government counterpart agency. Experiences show the importance of appropriate timing and the adherence to a set time schedule.

The experience in Bhutan also highlights the importance of selecting concrete and nationally owned indicators (see examples in Boxes 19 and 20) and the value of complementing budget support with targeted technical assistance (see Box 21).

**The way forward:** The Financing Agreement has been agreed by the Government of Bhutan and is to be signed by the end of the 2012. The programme will start with a first phase of mainstreaming climate change adaptation into the RNR Sector of Bhutan's 11th Five Year Plan and support towards the finalisation of the RNR climate change adaptation action plan. An international expert is to be recruited to advise the Government as plans are drawn up for the 11th Five Year Plan, which covers July 2013 to June 2018. This international expertise is considered crucial to ensure climate change adaptation is prominently reflected in the plan.

The implementation of the climate change adaptation activities themselves will start in 2015.

**Time line:** 2013 to 2016

**“Alternative development pathways, such as Gross National Happiness (GNH) that we are promulgating will influence the capacity of communities...to adapt to climate change.”**

Pema Gyamtsho, Minister of Agriculture and Forests, at the launch of the Third National Human Development Report in Thimphu, Bhutan

## Stories from the field

# Tackling flooding and the effects of climate change in Samoa



**Title:** GCCA – Supporting Climate Change Adaptation for the Samoan Water Sector.

**Priority areas:** Mainstreaming, adaptation and DRR.

**Sector:** Water and sanitation.

**Budget:** €3 million (fast start funding from the European Commission) through sector budget support.

**Partners:** Ministry of Finance; Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment.

With around 70 per cent of Samoa's population and infrastructure located in low-lying areas, the country is at particular risk from projected sea level rises and extreme weather. Half the population lives in the Apia urban area and North West Upolu, and the Apia catchment area suffers chronic inundation and flooding problems after intense rain. Following tropical cyclones in the early 1990s, the damage was put at approximately four times the gross domestic product of Samoa.

Samoa has given a high priority to water related activities by addressing water sector needs under a single sector-wide approach programme. One of the key objectives of Samoa's Water for Life Sector Plan is to improve sanitation, drainage and wastewater disposal. Given the chronic inundation and flooding problems suffered in the Apia catchment area after intense heavy rains, the strategy aims to reduce

the risk of flooding and to minimise damage and disruption through improved watershed conservation and improved drainage infrastructure.

The GCCA sector policy support programme aims to strengthen the integration of climate change adaptation into the update of the Water for Life Sector Plan 2012-2016 and to mitigate the impact of flooding in central Apia through the rehabilitation of priority drainage infrastructure and the introduction of an effective maintenance programme.

Specifically, the intervention will support the integration of climate change in the water sector policies and plans and support the implementation of selected adaptation measures in the sector.

The programme will include workshops and expert input to support the integration of adaptation in the Water for Life Sector Plan, the rehabilitation and clearance of drains in the greater Apia area by private contractors, the design, reconstruction and upgrading of priority drainage infrastructure for storm water flows based on climate change projections in the flood prone central business area of Apia, and the establishment and implementation of an effective asset management system and maintenance plan for drainage infrastructure under the Land Transport Authority.

**Key achievements to date:** On the sector side, the Government has stepped up its efforts to control

*“We have observed what is happening globally with climate change, we live in insecurity, knowing that something else will happen. Maybe all these homes will be washed away by the next cyclone. We have fear and sadness in our hearts.”*

A woman from Sotoalepai Village, Samoa.

developments in watershed areas, with critical watersheds such as the Apia Catchment a priority. It has also made good progress in its negotiations with landlords to secure critical watershed areas as natural reserves through the use of land compensation. Regulating development activities in the upper watershed and replanting the Apia watershed will greatly assist flood mitigation. The Water for Life Sector Plan for 2012 to 2016 has been adopted. It puts more emphasis on improved watershed management through prioritised watershed management plans; four key watershed management plans have been completed. The sector has also taken measures to improve disaster preparedness and response, for example, alternative water supply through boreholes, rainwater harvesting; water conservation. There has been progress on outsourcing routine maintenance for a number of urban drainage networks. The GCCA programme will

enable the sector to complement and build on achievements made so far.

**Lessons learned:** Integrated Water Resource Management at the catchment level is crucial in building the country's climate change resilience. Flood mitigation efforts are part and parcel of this planning process. This illustrates the benefits of using integrated approaches to deal with climate change adaptation and DRR (see Box 9).

A novel element is the strengthening of public-private partnerships for routine maintenance of the urban drainage network, which has already resulted in greatly improved performance of the network. To sustain these improvements, a standardised local drainage design manual is also required, to guide the design of new residential and

commercial developments within the urban area.

**The way forward:** The detailed designs for the full upgrade of the urban drainage network are being prepared and the routine maintenance programme has started. Once the detailed designs are finalised, rehabilitation and construction work can begin. To help coordinate this, a Memorandum of Understanding between the implementing agency and the ministries involved is being drafted to specify agreed roles and responsibilities and collaboration. The Ministry of Agriculture will also be invited to be part of the collaboration to ensure there is discussion of good land use practices, particularly in upper catchment areas.

**Time line:** 2013 to 2016

## Lessons from experience

### Building on existing sector or general budget support programmes

All the GCCA climate budget support programmes take place in countries where budget support and the related conditions are already in place. The GCCA builds on past and on-going efforts to strengthen countries' strategies, processes and systems in a particular sector or more broadly, through the use of budget support in particular, and complements this work by introducing the climate change dimension. The GCCA climate budget support in turn facilitates the further integration of climate change into the EU regular development aid, in particular through the EDF.

In **Samoa**, for example, the transition of support to the water sector, under the 10th EDF, from the project approach to a sector approach with budget support has contributed positively to the development of planning and implementation capacity, and strengthened water sector planning, budgeting and institutional processes within the Government's systems. On this basis, the GCCA intervention in **Samoa** has taken the form of sector budget support with a focus on adaptation, climate change and DRR mainstreaming in the water sector. It is expected to further the integration of climate change in the water sector beyond the GCCA, through EU regular development aid, under the 11th EDF.

### Selecting concrete and nationally owned indicators

One key specificity of climate change budget support lies with the indicators or criteria selected to disburse the funds.

The majority of the indicators the GCCA uses for budget support programmes focus on the processes, such as the setting up of new management and coordination structures or adoption of a new policy, law or regulation.

A number of indicators used in GCCA programmes also focus on longer-term outcomes in terms of actual implementation on the ground, improved livelihoods or better agricultural or energy systems, as illustrated in Box 19.

In **Lesotho**, on the adaptation side, the mainstreaming process is expected to result in the implementation of actions related to soil and nutrient management, water use efficiency, food security, disaster preparedness, among others. On the mitigation side, it is expected to result in the development of renewable sources of energy, the extension of rural electrification based on renewable energies, and the implementation of energy efficiency measures, for example, the promotion of improved cooking stoves.

In **Seychelles**, the adoption of an energy policy and Energy Act supporting CDM participation is amongst specific disbursement criteria for budget support.

In **Solomon Islands**, the training of key staff from the Climate Change Office and National Disaster Management is one of the 'triggers' for disbursement of the variable tranche of budget support. Disbursement criteria also include the costing of relocation options and preparation of guidelines for human resettlement projects, including safeguard standards, to minimise risks of conflicts due to resettlement.

### Box 19: GCCA experience – Examples of process and outcome indicators for budget support

A combination of both milestones and concrete outcomes that reflect several facets of the objectives is a good practice, as illustrated by the case of Bhutan in Box 20.

Another good practice is to define precisely the criteria and targets. Some targets are measured in quantitative units that do not leave much room for subjective

interpretation, especially if accompanied by a specification of technical standards, for example, kilometres of drainage infrastructure rehabilitated as in the **Samoa**

In **Bhutan**, the mainstreaming of climate change into the 11th Five-Year Plan for the Renewable Natural Resources sector is expected to result in the implementation of concrete adaptation measures in the agricultural sector. In the third and fourth year of the GCCA budget support programme, specific disbursement criteria are related to the implementation of agricultural practices that reduce vulnerability and/or reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Specific objectives:

Ensure climate change readiness of the Renewable Natural Resources (RNR) sector by:

- mainstreaming climate change into the sector
- ensuring steps are taken towards increasingly addressing climate change adaptation at multi-sectoral level

Expected outcomes:

- Reduced vulnerability to water stress and/or scarcity of clean water, and/or strengthened capacity of water sector institutions and communities to respond to climate variability/change
- Reduced contribution to climate change through reduced methane emissions from the RNR sector

Specific disbursement criteria:

Year 2

Monitoring and evaluation of the action plan for climate change adaptation successfully integrated into the National Planning and Monitoring System; software programme to automatically relate expenditures to planning created; quality of the national RNR statistical system (national agriculture census/projections) substantially improved to provide timely, accurate and reliable information for monitoring and evaluation of RNR and climate change

Years 3-4

Number of districts, communities, farms and households participating in water saving schemes, storage facilities and recycling mechanisms; number of farmers adopting sustainable land management practices; proportion of rice-cultivating areas growing rice varieties which are more climate change-resistant and less methane-producing; number of farmers adopting high-yielding livestock breeds and pasture development for reducing methane production; amount of methane re-used for fuel purposes through adoption of integrated livestock-biogas initiatives

### Box 20: GCCA experience – Mainstreaming climate change into the Five-Year Plan for the Renewable Natural Resources sector in Bhutan

programme. Where the target is expressed in terms of a less directly measurable output, for example, substantially improved statistical system in **Bhutan**, or a milestone, for example, adoption of a renewable energy strategy in **Lesotho**, additional details are usually provided to specify minimum quality criteria or requirements in terms of content.

With a view to aligning and strengthening countries' agendas and systems, the GCCA also promotes the adoption of indicators or criteria that are already used in the national policy documents, strategies or monitoring systems.

When suitable indicators do not already exist, the budget support programme provides an opportunity to work together with the country to develop new ones, and to integrate them in the national monitoring system, from data collection to analysis and reporting.

## Complementing budget support with targeted technical assistance

Based on the GCCA experience, complementing budget support with technical assistance can prove very

beneficial, provided it is embedded in the national structures. It also relies on national expertise and supports long-term institutional strengthening and climate change mainstreaming. Examples are presented in Box 21.

In **Bhutan**, a provision was made in the programme budget, outside the budget support component, for the recruitment of technical assistance to help mainstream the Renewable Natural Resources-Climate Change Adaptation Action Plan into the 11th Five Year Plan.

In **Lesotho**, a substantial provision has been made outside the budget support component to provide technical assistance for preparation of policy/strategy documents and improved sector coordination. Technical assistance with a capacity building mandate will be available to support the development of a national climate change adaptation and mitigation strategy and a national strategy for renewable energy, while the institutional arrangements for managing these new areas of competence are gradually established.

In **Mauritius**, a small envelope was also earmarked from the beginning for technical assistance to support the development of a policy and guidelines on sustainable buildings, and the development of a building energy efficiency rating system.

In **Seychelles**, there is limited technical expertise in climate change and a complex institutional framework. In retrospect, the provision of targeted high-level institutional assistance, and specific resources for capacity building, in particular for the Seychelles Energy Commission, which is taking on additional responsibilities as a sector regulator as the new Energy Act comes into force, would have been a useful complement to the provision of budget support.

### Box 21: GCCA experience – Complementing budget support with technical assistance

# Supporting Countries with Regional Work

The GCCA currently supports seven regional programmes, with an eighth in formulation, to complement its existing country interventions. For regional programmes, the emphasis is generally on capacity building, applied research and technical assistance, and promoting the exchange of experience between countries. These programmes are summarised in Table 6.

GCCA supported programmes on the African continent are delivered through a number of existing organisations that seek common development objectives for their member countries. These include the Common Market for Eastern and

Southern Africa (COMESA). In West Africa, the partner organisations are ECOWAS, the Economic Community of West African States, and CILSS, the Comité permanent Inter-Etats de Lutte contre la Sécheresse. The GCCA is also working with the African Union on continent wide initiatives.

In the Caribbean, the GCCA is supporting the 17 member countries of the Caribbean Forum (CARIFORUM) through the Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (CCCCC) and has prepared another programme with the Organisation of the Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) to be launched in 2013.

In the Pacific, the GCCA is working with the University of the South Pacific (USP) and the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) across various Pacific states; whilst in south-east Asia, the GCCA is supporting the Mekong River Commission's (MRC) Climate Change and Adaptation Initiative (CCAI).

Through its regional programmes the GCCA aims to achieve complementarities between the national and regional level, as illustrated by Box 22.

In the **South Pacific**, the GCCA supports activities at the regional level, for example, coordination forums, investigating of the feasibility of setting up a regional mechanism for access to international climate funding. At the national level, it supports the preparation of national climate change adaptation roadmaps and action plans, for example, and at the local level, supported activities include the implementation of field projects from which practical experience can be acquired and shared. This is based on experience showing that a system embracing both 'top-down' and 'bottom-up' approaches to the adaptation process has the best chance of improving the adaptive capacity of inhabitants of the Pacific.

**Box 22: GCCA experience – Embracing both 'top-down' and 'bottom-up' approaches in the South Pacific**

## Table 6: Overview of GCCA supported regional programmes

Programmes earmarked for 2012 GCCA funding are indicated with an asterisk

Region/Country	Partners	GCCA priority areas	Sectors	Budget	Duration
Africa	African Union (AU), African Development Bank (AfDB) and United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA)	Adaptation and CDM	Overall development and poverty reduction  Agriculture; energy; food security; health; water	GCCA contribution €8 million	2012 to 2015
Western Africa	Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and Comité permanent Inter-Etats de Lutte contre la Sécheresse (CILSS)	Mainstreaming; adaptation and CDM	Overall development and poverty reduction  Agriculture; forests; energy; infrastructure; land management	Total value €4 million (GCCA)	2011 to 2015
Eastern and Southern Africa	Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA)	Mainstreaming; adaptation; REDD and CDM	Overall development and poverty reduction  Agriculture; energy; forests; land management	Total value €105 million (GCCA contribution €4 million)	2010 to 2014
The Caribbean	Caribbean Forum (CARIFORUM) and Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (CCCCC)	Adaptation; REDD; CDM and DRR	Agriculture; education; energy; fisheries; forests; health; tourism; water	Total value €8 million (GCCA)	2011 to 2014
The Eastern Caribbean*	Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS)	Adaptation	Land management	Total value €10 million (GCCA with €7 million fast start funding from EC)	2013 to 2018 (est.)



Region/Country	Partners	GCCA priority areas	Sectors	Budget	Duration
Lower Mekong Basin	Mekong River Commission (MRC)	Mainstreaming and adaptation	Overall development and poverty reduction  Agriculture; land management; natural resources; water and sanitation	Total value €11.55 million  GCCA contribution €5 million (€1.54 million fast start funding from each of EU and Ireland). Other contributors Australia: €1.64 million; Denmark : €0.65 million; Luxembourg: €1.89 million; Germany: €1.42 million; Sweden: €0.39 million; Sweden and Finland €0.83 million through other MRC sources	2012 to 2015
Pacific	University of South Pacific (USP)	Adaptation and DRR	Education, research; technological development;	Total value €8 million (GCCA)	2011 to 2014
South Pacific	Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) and Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)	Mainstreaming and adaptation	Overall development and poverty reduction  Coastal zone management; health; infrastructure, water and sanitation	Total value €11.4 million (GCCA including €10 million EC fast start funding)	2011 to 2015

## Stories from the field

# Supporting education and research on climate change in the Pacific Islands



**Title:** GCCA Pacific Islands Forum Support Programme.

**Priority areas:** Adaptation and DDR.

**Sectors:** Education, research and technological development.

**Beneficiary countries:**

Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Kingdom of Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.

**Budget:** Total value €8 million GCCA.

**Partners:** The Pacific Centre for Environment and Sustainable Development (PACE-SD) of the University of South Pacific.

The programme aims to develop and strengthen the Pacific countries' capacity to adapt to the negative effects of climate change and, specifically, to improve the level of understanding of climate change in the region. The GCCA programme supports the implementation of the Pacific Islands Framework for Action on Climate Change (PIFACC) through support for the Pacific Centre for Environment and Sustainable Development of the University of the South Pacific (USP).

Activities for this programme fall into three interlinked areas. These

“Climate change is one of the most serious threats to sustainable development and to the very survival of Pacific Island Countries and communities. Developing scientific capacity in the region will be an important element of action on climate change”

Pacific Islands Framework for Action on Climate Change (PIFACC) 2006-2015

are capacity building through formal and informal training; on-the-ground adaptation activities at community level; and applied research. Post-graduate, master and PhD level courses on climate change are being developed at the university, while training is being delivered through in-country workshops and a train-the-trainers approach. The community engagement component is about encouraging low-input, high quality and replicable community climate change adaptation actions, with a robust participatory process. The emphasis is on promoting best practice and securing ownership. The focus of the applied research component is on developing tools for assessing vulnerability and for developing adaptation plans. It involves analysing the reliability

of available climate models and improving them. The programme will also involve a series of studies on the likely impact of climate variability and extremes as projected by the climate models on a variety of economic sectors and biophysical regions, the outcomes of which will inform future adaptation strategies and practices.

**Key achievements to date:**

To date, 18 scholarships for the PGDip in Climate Change, 13 MSc scholarships and 4 PhD scholarships were awarded. A total of 19 students are expected to graduate by the end of 2012. A first training event for in-country coordinators has taken place with the aim of training people in the facilitation and communication skills needed to make them effective trainers in their respective countries. In addition, Tonga and Vanuatu have hosted sub-regional training events for a number of their neighbouring countries. Forty participants took part in each training event. They were geared towards equipping participants with the knowledge and skills to support governments, NGOs and regional organisations in their efforts to adapt to climate change. Participants included government representatives, community representatives and partner organisations.

Under the community component, a number of in-country coordinators

have appointed a National Project Advisory Committee (NPAC) and convened stakeholder meetings. These provided an opportunity to discuss the project and the mapping, rapid and vulnerability assessment and site selection processes, with a view to identify demonstration sites. A virtual platform has also been set up to enable coordinators to discuss issues and share best practice. In addition, a communication strategy and work plan has been developed to increase the visibility of the project in the 15 countries and improve communication within the project and with partner organisations. A series of events and activities have already taken place including a regional conference and the recent Fiji National Climate Change Summit.

The applied research component has also moved forward. The Knowledge Centre, an online and physical climate change resource, is dedicated to receiving, accessing and retrieving relevant data, reports and scientific documents. Several datasets on weather, climate and oceanographic observations and model-generated outputs relating to students' research have been added to the project's server. In addition, research assistants have

been involved in the collection and collation of information for the regional best practice report.

**Lessons learned:** Synergies between capacity building, community engagement in adaptive activities and applied research enhance the understanding of climate change and adaptive capacity in the region. Education and informal training need to be complemented with dialogue and coordination activities fostering networking with national and regional counterparts. Low-input, replicable community climate change adaptation projects, accompanied by a robust process of best practice promotion, make it possible to both draw on the programme's training and research components, and contribute inputs into them.

Despite the fact that climate change is high on the agenda of the region, the time needed to recruit experienced professionals for country-level activities should not be underestimated.

**The way forward:** More comprehensive train-the-trainers workshops will be organised as more in-country coordinators are

recruited. Project sites are in the process of being chosen, and should represent different types of islands and problems common in the Pacific, building synergies with ongoing work carried out under major adaptation projects in the region. Project sites are expected to be predominantly in outer (peripheral) and more vulnerable islands, where self-sufficiency issues are more acute. Applied research is to be undertaken with a focus on better understanding the degree and nature of the vulnerability of the communities of various sizes including cities, towns, villages, which occupy particularly vulnerable locations, for example, atolls and river deltas, and on developing tools needed for assessing vulnerability and developing adaptation plans. Through the applied research component a list of publications and tool kits have been developed, with more in the pipeline to support the project activities. These publications will be translated into local languages and will be distributed to all the 15 project countries.

**Time line:** 2011-2014

## Stories from the field

# Addressing climate change effects on agriculture in Eastern and Southern Africa



**Title:** Programme on climate change adaptation and mitigation in the COMESA-EAC-SADC region.

**Priority areas:** Adaptation; mainstreaming; CDM and REDD.

**Sectors:** Overall development and poverty reduction; agriculture; energy; forests; land management.

**Beneficiary countries:** Angola, Botswana, Burundi, Comoros, DR Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Lesotho, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Rwanda, Seychelles, South Africa, Sudan, Swaziland, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

**Budget:** Total cost is estimated at €105 million. The GCCA contributes €4 million. Other major donors include Norway UK (DFID), the Rockefeller Foundation and USAID.

**Partners:** The Climate Change Unit of the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), in coordination with the West African Community (EAC) and the Southern African Development Community (SADC).

In Eastern and Southern Africa, climate change has led to more extreme weather including flooding,

storms and droughts. Water availability is posing a serious threat to the region's food production systems. All these developments have significant social, economic and political repercussions. The impact of climate change is highly heterogeneous and is felt most by the poorest communities and groups. This programme's key target group is smallholder farmers, the largest population group in the region. The aim is to increase their resilience to the effects of climate change by scaling up the adoption and implementation of climate smart agriculture, conservation agriculture and other sustainable land management practices.

**“Capacity building is required for stakeholders in Africa to articulate, mobilise and implement adaptation and mitigation interventions that benefit the majority of Africans.”**

Comoros' Vice President Fouad Mohadji, speaking at the launch of the initiative.

Programme implementation is structured along seven lines. Firstly, it aims to consolidate a common African position that is effectively reflected in global climate change

agreements and the mainstreaming of climate change in national planning. The programme supports the development of national climate smart agriculture investment frameworks and national financing strategies for the implementation of conservation agriculture programmes. It promotes climate smart agriculture, conservation agriculture and sustainable land use practices. This is being achieved by engaging partner organisations in the implementation of the project, strengthening the existing ICT infrastructure and agricultural services such as seed supply and access to markets, and launching at least 14 conservation agriculture pilot projects. In addition, two regional conservation agriculture knowledge centres will be established. They will conduct an international programme on knowledge transfer, focusing on technologies and practices to enhance climate resilient agricultural production. The African Climate Change Knowledge Network will be strengthened and supported and two research programmes will be initiated. The programme also entails vulnerability assessments and analyses in at least eight countries, and the promotion of mitigation solutions with carbon trading benefits. Finally, a regional Catalytic Facility/Challenge Account will be set up to support investment

in national climate smart agriculture and conservation agriculture programmes.

**Key achievements to date:**

The programme has supported the generation of scientific and technical information to strengthen the African position at negotiations. Draft positions on agriculture have been developed and negotiators have been financed. Consultative round tables have been convened and regional meetings held on the upscaling of climate smart and conservation agriculture. Experts from a number of member states have been engaged to undertake conservation agriculture stock taking exercises and assist in drafting national conservation agriculture investment frameworks. The programme has helped a number of member states complete their national adaptation plans (NAPAs).

The programme has delivered support to women and involved young people. A regional study on 'Integrating female farmers in agribusiness into regional and global value chains' was conducted in Kenya, Uganda and Mauritius. A framework on the Regional Strategy on Mainstreaming Gender in Agriculture and Climate Change has been developed and launched. In addition, in Zambia and Kenya, women's groups have been funded to practice climate smart agriculture through the provision of greenhouses. Initiatives to support young people include regional youth conferences co-funded by COMESA in Malawi and Zambia in 2010 and 2011 respectively. The conference in Lusaka, Zambia, launched a Youth Alliance, which was further supported by another youth conference in Harare, Zimbabwe in 2012.

The programme has also delivered on municipal waste management. In 2012, it began a study of municipal waste management in three model cities in Kenya, Zambia and Zimbabwe. The aim is to identify the main systemic, policy and institutional drivers of the waste management system and assess whether climate change can be integrated into it.

Finally, the COMESA carbon fund was registered in Mauritius in September 2010. In 2012, this started a process of supporting a Rwandan correctional services biogas project with a view to registering it as a CDM project.

**Lessons learned:** The nature and scale of climate change is not only hindering development and environmental conservation, but it also poses a major threat to security at regional and national levels, making regional coordination and collaboration of critical importance.

The reliance of the poorest segments of the population and marginalised groups on local ecological resources, combined with existing health and well-being issues, and their limited access to credit and technology transfer for mitigation and adaptation measures, makes them highly vulnerable to climate change and means they require dedicated programmes and solutions.

**The way forward:** The programme will continue its work on various fronts. A training programme for negotiators will be set up and adapted training tools will be developed by specialised institutions in the region.

The Regional Strategy and Strategic Action Plan for Mainstreaming Gender into Agriculture and Climate Change launched in 2012 will be used as a guiding tool to regional and national institutions to implement gender sensitive climate smart agriculture programmes.

The studies on municipal waste management in three model cities in Kenya, Zambia and Zimbabwe will continue with the aim to provide an understanding of geographical, social and sectoral aspects of waste management, to make available information and hard data, and to deliver practical models for municipal waste management with a focus on waste to energy, carbon trading and community participation.

The studies are expected to be completed in 2013 and to be extended to other cities in future.

**Time line:** 2010-2014.

# Lessons from experience

## Building partnerships at the regional level

In every region the GCCA builds on existing partnerships and helps to strengthen them. In Africa, the GCCA dialogue is taking place within the established Africa-EU Strategic Partnership. A key step in the process was the adoption in November 2008 of a joint EU-Africa Declaration on Climate Change during the 11th Ministerial Meeting of the African and EU Troikas. In the Caribbean, the GCCA builds on the CARIFORUM-EU Declaration on climate change and energy, endorsed in May 2008, and on the Regional Strategy on Climate Change. In Asia, the GCCA policy dialogue complements the Asia-Europe Meeting summits and meetings and led to a joint Declaration. In the Pacific, the Joint EU-Pacific Declaration on Climate

Change of November 2008 marked a commitment between Pacific Island Forum Member States and Europe to address the challenges posed by climate change.

The GCCA further supports the Joint Pacific-EU Initiative on climate change, formalised by the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat and the EC through the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding in Strasbourg in December 2010.

Box 23 provides examples of partnership building in the context of GCCA regional programmes and work.

## Supporting data collection and management and applied research

As outlined earlier in *Making climate change support effective*, the GCCA experience highlights

the importance of the collection, assessment and dissemination of data on climate change and its linkages to development and economic activities. Applied or policy relevant research including vulnerability assessments, modelling, and piloting of adaptation and mitigation responses in a regional context create opportunities for economies of scale and South-South cooperation. These themes are explored in Box 24.

## Strengthening regional capacities and institutions

The data collection and management and the applied and policy relevant research supported through the GCCA are often linked to capacity and institutional strengthening at the regional level. For example, in the **Eastern Caribbean**, the GCCA intervention will help build human and technical

In the **Pacific**, the GCCA programme being implemented by the University of the South Pacific (USP) rapidly developed education and scholarship programmes related to climate change but initially encountered significant delays with the development of pilot projects due to a lack of both country contacts and expertise in project implementation. Over the last year, USP has partnered with the Secretariat of the Pacific Community, the Pacific Island Forum Secretariat, the United Nations Development Programme, as well as national governments to identify pilot project sites. Strong partnership and consultation between these organisations has helped build on synergies, pool expertise and overcome previous implementation difficulties.

In **Western Africa**, the programme strives to establish partnerships with NGOs, research institutions and other organisations involved in conducting climate-related studies and assessments, to develop synergies and support the wider dissemination of knowledge on adaptation and mitigation responses. This process builds on the mapping of climate change-related initiatives and stakeholders in the region.

In 2010 and 2011, the GCCA has organised a number of high-level events to facilitate the exchange of views and experience, each tailored to the audience and region. **Regional conferences** in Asia, Africa, the Pacific and the Caribbean have provided a forum for dialogue and commitment on climate change. They led to joint Outcome Documents or Declarations. In Asia for example, the conference resulted in Bangladesh, Cambodia, Maldives and the EU signing a joint declaration, agreeing to cooperate towards the successful conclusion of a post-2012 agreement under the UNFCCC and the Kyoto Protocol.

### Box 23: GCCA experience – Strengthening regional partnerships

Data and knowledge management in support of climate policy in general is a central feature of the **ClimDev Africa programme**. It supports the upgrading of observation networks and infrastructure to enhance the provision of essential data for climate services and early warning systems, including seasonal and long-term forecasting at continental and sub-regional levels and downscaling of climate projections and scenarios. It also promotes research into and analysis of climate change adaptation and mitigation options. This contributes to policy dialogue, enhancing Africa's position in international climate negotiations, and supporting African climate change and development policy making.

In **Eastern and Southern Africa**, the GCCA-supported programme includes research into methodologies (particularly MRV), practices and standards related to bio carbon and agriculture, forestry and land use (AFOLU) applications that can help the region's countries to enhance their participation in carbon markets and REDD+. Two existing organisations are mandated to become regional knowledge centres on conservation agriculture. The African Climate Change Knowledge Network is also being strengthened and supported in its operations. Two research programmes are planned, with one focussing on generating scientific evidence in support of the African position on climate change. Vulnerability assessment and analysis is to be undertaken in at least eight countries.

In the **Lower Mekong Basin**, pilot projects were selected and implemented at an early stage in the execution of the Climate Change and Adaptation Initiative, to provide an opportunity for testing and a concrete foundation for other programme activities. For instance, it is anticipated that the adaptation tools to be developed and promoted as part of the capacity building component of the programme will be inspired by approaches tested in the field.

In the **Caribbean**, climate monitoring, climate modelling, and vulnerability and risk assessment to inform future land use planning, zoning and development planning, are key features of the GGCA programme. The existing regional climate monitoring system is being expanded and integrated in the Global Climate Observing System (GCOS). Over 100 hydro-meteorological stations, and six coral reef early warning stations, are to be installed; a system for collection, digitising and storage of data is being set up; and a protocol for sharing information through the Information Clearing House Facility of the Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (CCCCC) is being developed. The programme also supports the development of improved climate models based on data at smaller resolutions, and their use in studies on climate impacts, of which about ten should be conducted throughout the region. About ten vulnerability and risk assessments, based on improved methodologies, are also planned to inform future land use planning, zoning and development planning.

**Box 24: GCCA experience – Supporting applied and policy relevant research at the regional level**

capacities to effectively operate and manage a number of technical tools, such as mapping and geographical information systems and GPS tools, which are required for the collection, storage, analysis and display of geo-spatial data necessary to support

decision making in delivering sustainable land management policies and strategies.

Working at the regional level had proved to be very effective for capacity building, as it enables

countries to exchange and learn from each other. It also allows them to increasingly rely on regional expertise and specialised institutions rather than international support. Box 25 provides examples of GCCA work in this area.

In **Eastern and Southern Africa**, pilot projects are supported in the field of conservation agriculture, and of agriculture, forestry and land use (AFOLU)-based mitigation. At least four REDD pilot projects will also be designed, initiated and evaluated, with the aim of promoting learning by doing.

In the **Pacific**, low-input, replicable community climate change adaptation projects, accompanied by a solid process of best practice promotion, will be implemented. Project sites are in the process of being chosen, and should represent different types of islands and problems common in the Pacific, building synergies with on-going work carried out under major adaptation projects in the region. These projects are expected to draw on the programme's training and research components, but also to contribute inputs into them.

**Box 25: GCCA experience – Learning by doing on a regional scale**

# Managing Knowledge and Promoting Learning

## Making knowledge and communication a priority

By the end of 2012, over 45 GCCA programmes will be on-going or under preparation in over 35 countries and 4 regions. From these, over 15 programmes are just about to start or to be launched. It has been a fast track process, yet the GCCA has still more to offer both in the countries and regions where it works and as a learning mechanism to inform the climate change arena.

As experience accumulates across the globe, it is vital that the GCCA ensures that lesson learning is an integral part of the process and that the knowledge generated from its implementation is shared across countries and regions and with development partners.

Lessons from mainstreaming in **Nepal** or **Mozambique** can enlighten similar efforts in **Cambodia** or **Ethiopia**. The experience with budget support in **Bhutan** or **Solomon Islands** can inform new programme development, for example, in **Lesotho**. The eco-villages from the GCCA in **Tanzania** can provide inspiration for **Haiti** or **Malawi** in preparing their own programmes.

A main objective of the GCCA is therefore to promote the exchange of experience, to build knowledge in the area of climate change mainstreaming and responses based on GCCA supported interventions across the world, and to create a group dynamic for further exchange.

These aims are all reflected in the GCCA knowledge management and communication strategy, developed in 2012 in a consultative manner. This strategy focuses on engagement with the implementing partners of the GCCA, promoting knowledge creation and building relationships for influence and change. It proposes specific activities aimed at promoting a shared understanding of the GCCA, the projection of a consistent image, and knowledge building and exchange.

## Events and Dialogue

A number of high-level events have been organised by the GCCA to facilitate the exchange of views and experience, each tailored to the audience and region. Regional conferences in Asia, Africa, the Pacific and the Caribbean have provided a forum for dialogue and commitment on climate change. In addition, on-going policy dialogue is also taking place at the national level, through the EU's extended network of delegations, and at the global level, in the context of UNFCCC-related negotiations.

### First Global Learning Event

The first GCCA global learning event was held in Brussels from 12 to 14 September 2012. This meeting brought together partners directly involved in the implementation of

GCCA-funded programmes.

Over 160 delegates from beneficiary countries and organisations, development partners, EU Members States and the EC gathered for three days.

The meeting highlighted the importance of the two pillars of the GCCA. These are policy dialogue and experience sharing on one hand, and technical and financial cooperation on the other hand. Working groups also emphasised the importance of effectively scaling up pilot projects; the role of applied research, data collection and management; and avenues to contribute to national efforts at a cross-sector-wide level, for example, through climate change mainstreaming into national development planning and budget support. They supported the benefits of applying the aid effectiveness principles and supporting long-term institutional strengthening in relation to climate change. They also raised the question of the future of the GCCA.

On the last day, a high level panel discussion confirmed a number of key conclusions from the workshop and looked at the future of the GCCA. The discussion highlighted challenges encountered at the country level and recognised that the GCCA contributes to addressing these and benefits from a great level of ownership and interest. The audience expressed its



support for the continuation of the GCCA, building on its achievements and integrating lessons learned to date. There was also support for a more ambitious GCCA and a call for more EU Member States to join the GCCA.

## Side events at UNFCCC Conference of the Parties

The results of the GCCA interventions across the world, and of the policy dialogue and exchange of experience at various levels, help EU negotiators better understand the stakes and needs of the most vulnerable countries, as well as the most effective responses. They also help developing countries better assert their position in international negotiations. This is why the GCCA regularly organises events in the margins of UNFCCC Conference of the Parties or preparatory meetings.

In Cancún in 2010, the GCCA supported the organisation of a side event on the theme *'Beyond the Cancún Debate: The role of fast start and international alliances for adaptation to climate change'*. The event was attended by representatives of fast start finance recipient countries, NGOs and academia.

In Durban in 2011, the GCCA led the organisation of a side event on the theme *'Innovative and effective approaches to climate change adaptation in Africa: EU experiences'*. This provided an opportunity for the EU (represented by the EC, Irish Aid and the European Investment Bank) and two GCCA partner countries (the **Seychelles** and **Mozambique**, represented by government officials) to explain how they promote innovative and effective approaches and foster long-term capacity-building and ownership.

The GCCA's brochure on *'Using innovative and effective approaches to deliver climate change support to developing countries'* was launched at this event.

In Doha, the GCCA event will explain how the EU is making climate change support effective, helping government partners to integrate climate change into national development planning and budgeting, and piloting budget support, thereby helping countries increase their absorptive capacity and prepare to receive long-term climate change finance. The GCCA will explain how it serves as a catalyst to further integrate climate change into EU regular development aid, creating a multiplier effect. As the future of the GCCA is being shaped, the side event will bring to the table voices from developing countries on early results, lessons learned and priorities for the future.

## GCCA Community

The GCCA has launched an on-line platform (<http://capacity4dev.ec.europa.eu/gcca-community/>) to act as a knowledge and information hub and facilitate sharing of knowledge and experience across the GCCA Community. It allows members to easily post and exchange articles, pictures and videos, documents, and opinions with other members of the group. Notices about events can also be shared, as well as information on members' profiles.

One month after its launch the GCCA Community had over 50 members from GCCA partner countries and organisations, development partners, and the EU. Stakeholders involved in GCCA regional workshops and in training and technical support activities implemented under the Intra-ACP Programme are also invited to join

the GCCA Community to facilitate further exchange and remote support after they have attended a particular workshop.

All the documents, presentations, videos and interviews from the GCCA first Global Learning Event are available on the GCCA Community. Blog posts enable the members of the Community to continue and deepen the discussions in a virtual form after the event.

In the future, practice oriented documents such as examples of strategies or policies, studies, or terms of reference produced with the support of the GCCA will be made available to the GCCA Community.

# The future of the GCCA

The climate change community must continue to make the case to address climate change, and emphasise the need to do it together with development. In doing so, the arguments must be relevant for development planners and decision-makers, logical, science based, engaging and positive.

The evidence of climate change is becoming compelling and countries are making progress in mainstreaming climate change, as witnessed by cases like **Ethiopia**, **Mozambique** and the **Pacific** region. Many countries, though, are still facing challenges, in particular on the budgeting, financing and monitoring aspects.

Challenges at the country level include competing priorities, governance including donor coordination and absorptive capacity, uncertainties related to future climate finance in the context of the UNFCCC negotiations, and implementation.

Key features of successful climate change support include promoting a strategic approach and long-term institutional strengthening, for example, through mainstreaming in national development policymaking and budgeting, and applying the aid effectiveness principles.

The GCCA contributes to addressing these challenges and is clearly moving in the right direction. There is a high level of ownership and enthusiasm for the GCCA. The vast majority of GCCA partners support the continuation of the GCCA and want to see the alliance build on its achievements and integrate lessons learned into future policies and

practices. The focus on LDCs and SIDS should not be forgotten.

The GCCA ensures their voices are heard at the highest level.

There is also demand from partners for a more ambitious GCCA while the Green Climate Fund is being operationalised, and a call for more EU member states to join the GCCA.

The very nature of EU thematic programmes like the GCCA requires them to complement the geographical instruments of the EU, with innovative pilot actions - while geographical programmes take over when and where appropriate.

In addition, the GCCA needs to keep bringing added value to the climate scene.

As the EU is preparing for its next programming cycle, the future of the GCCA will be assessed over the next months, in particular taking into account the outcome of the UNFCCC Conference of the Parties in Doha. The GCCA could concentrate on areas and approaches where it has accumulated good experience to date and where learning is still needed, like climate change mainstreaming and budget support, possibly piloting such approaches in additional vulnerable countries. In LDCs and SIDS, especially the ones where the GCCA is not yet working, there needs to be flexibility to address other GCCA priority areas, like adaptation, DRR or REDD, and/or to use other more traditional aid delivery modalities and approaches.

Another important avenue for the future will be to further the integration of climate change into

EU regular aid and geographical programmes. This can be achieved through the use of country environmental and climate change analyses, the undertaking of environmental and climate assessments, the inclusion of climate change in regional and country strategic analyses and the focus on climate change in regional and national indicative programmes, based on country needs and priorities. Partner countries can help to deliver the message through policy dialogues with the EU in their respective countries.

Last but not least, in future the GCCA is also expected to keep delivering on the objectives and results that all these programmes are designed to achieve, to help the poorest and most vulnerable countries and communities address the climate challenge.

# Abbreviations and acronyms

ACP: Africa, Caribbean and Pacific group of states  
AFD: Agence Française de Développement  
AfDB: African Development Bank  
AFOLU: Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use  
AU: African Union  
CARICOM: Caribbean Community  
CARIFORUM: Caribbean Forum  
CCAI: Climate Change and Adaptation Initiative  
CCCCC: Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre  
CDM: Clean Development Mechanism  
CILSS: Comité permanent Inter-Etats de Lutte contre la Sécheresse  
COMESA: Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa  
CoP: Conference of the Parties  
CSOs: Civil Society Organisations  
DANIDA: Denmark's development cooperation, under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark  
DFID: UK Department for International Development  
DRR: Disaster Risk Reduction  
EC: European Commission  
ECOWAS: Economic Community of West African States  
EU: European Union  
FAO: Food and Agriculture Organisation  
FLEGT: Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade  
GCCA: Global Climate Change Alliance  
GIZ: Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH  
ICZM: Integrated Coastal Zone Management  
IPAD: Instituto Português de Apoio ao Desenvolvimento  
IPCC: Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change  
IWRM: Integrated Water Resources Management  
LDCs: Least Developed Countries  
MDGs: Millennium Development Goals  
MRC: Mekong River Commission  
MRV: Monitoring, Reporting and Verification  
NAPAs: National Adaptation Programmes of Action  
NGO: Non-Governmental Organisation  
OECS: Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States  
PIFACC: Pacific Islands Framework for Action on Climate Change  
REDD: Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation  
SIDS: Small Island Developing States  
SPC: Secretariat of the Pacific Community  
SPREP: Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme  
UN: United Nations  
UNEP: United Nations Environment Programme  
UNDP: United Nations Development Programme  
UNECA: United Nations Economic Commission for Africa  
UNFCCC: United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change  
USP: University of South Pacific

The Global Climate Change Alliance (GCCA) is an initiative of the European Union (EU) to strengthen dialogue and cooperation on climate change with developing countries most vulnerable to climate change.

The GCCA focuses on the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and the Small Island Developing States (SIDS), which are often the most affected by climate change but have the fewest resources to tackle it.

The initiative was launched in 2007 and is coordinated by the European Commission (EC).

The five GCCA priority areas are:

Mainstreaming climate change into poverty reduction and development strategies

Adaptation, building on the National Adaptation Programmes of Action (NAPAs) and other national plans

Disaster risk reduction (DRR)

Reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD)

Enhancing participation in the global carbon market and the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM)



Global Climate Change Alliance (GCCA)

E-mail: [info@gcca.eu](mailto:info@gcca.eu)

[www.gcca.eu](http://www.gcca.eu)



Republic of  
Cyprus



Republic of  
Ireland



Czech  
Republic



Republic of  
Estonia



Kingdom of  
Sweden