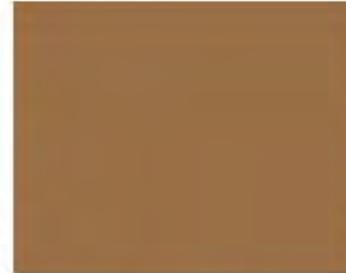


AFRICA @COP 21 CLIMATE NEGOTIATIONS

by

Estherine Lisinge-Fotabong,
Director of Programmes, NEPAD



What's in it for Africa

North Atlantic Oscillation a key factor in international climate vulnerability, with impact on fisheries industries

Egypt/Cairo/The Nile: Coastal areas threatened by sea-level rise; Nile river basin sensitive to climate, with regional implications

Horn of Africa heavily affected by recurrent droughts

Rainfall variability modulated by vegetation dynamics, surface properties in the Sahel; empirical evidence of species changes

Important commercial agriculture adapted to bimodal rainfall; shifts in rainfall patterns would have far-reaching impacts

High proportion of population concentrated in coastal areas in West African cities such as Lagos and Banjul, thus especially vulnerable to sea-level rise

East African Great Lakes and reservoirs respond to climate variability with pronounced changes in storage

Regional climate modeling experiments show deforestation in Central Africa will impact climate in distant south (teleconnections)

Coastal marine fishery likely to be negatively affected by changes in Bangwuela current

Long-lasting impacts of drought on national economies for SADC region

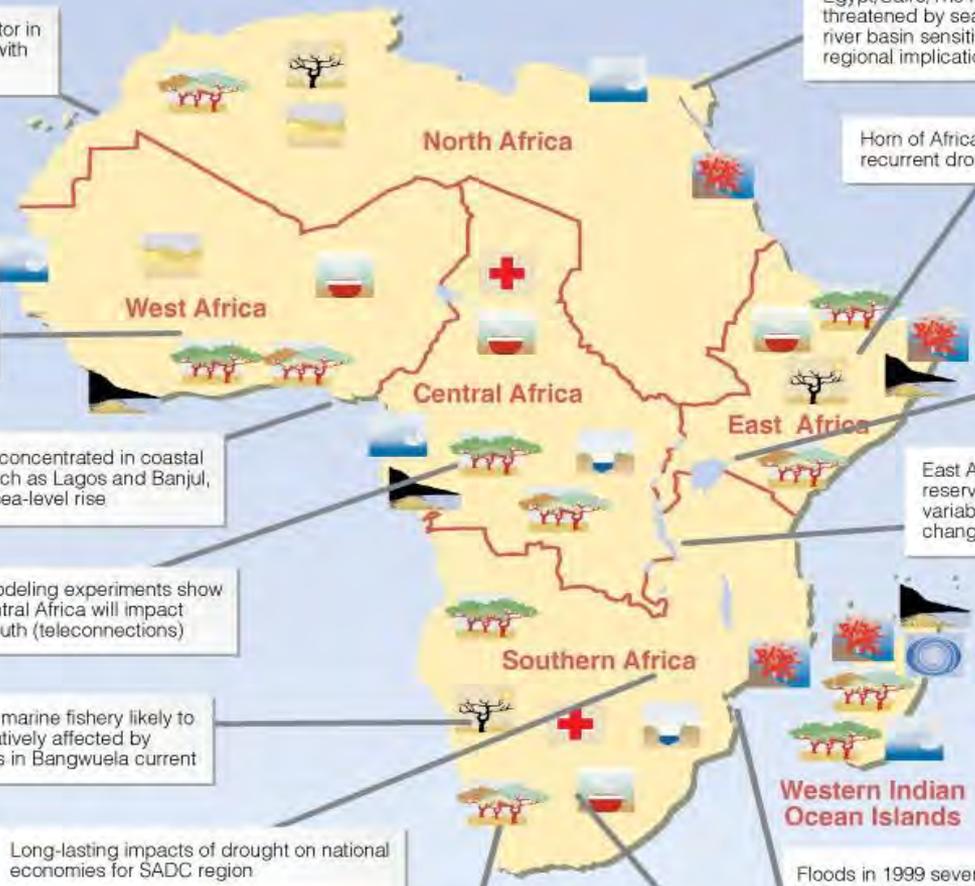
Floods in 1999 severely affected coastal population and infrastructure, with long-lasting economic and development impacts; adaptation and recovery very costly and beyond the means of African countries

Complete loss or displacement of Succulent Karoo biome projected under climate change, and many species losses in other biomes

Intensity of extreme events increased significantly over South Africa; biome shifts will favor horticulture over plantation forestry; malaria risk areas projected to expand southward

The vulnerabilities

-  Desertification
-  Deforestation
-  Sea level rise
-  Loss of forest quality
-  Reduced freshwater availability
-  Degradation of woodlands
-  Cyclones
-  Coral bleaching
-  Coastal erosion
-  Spread of malaria
-  Impacts on food security



African Coordination Processes

- Collective technical negotiations on behalf of Africa

AGN

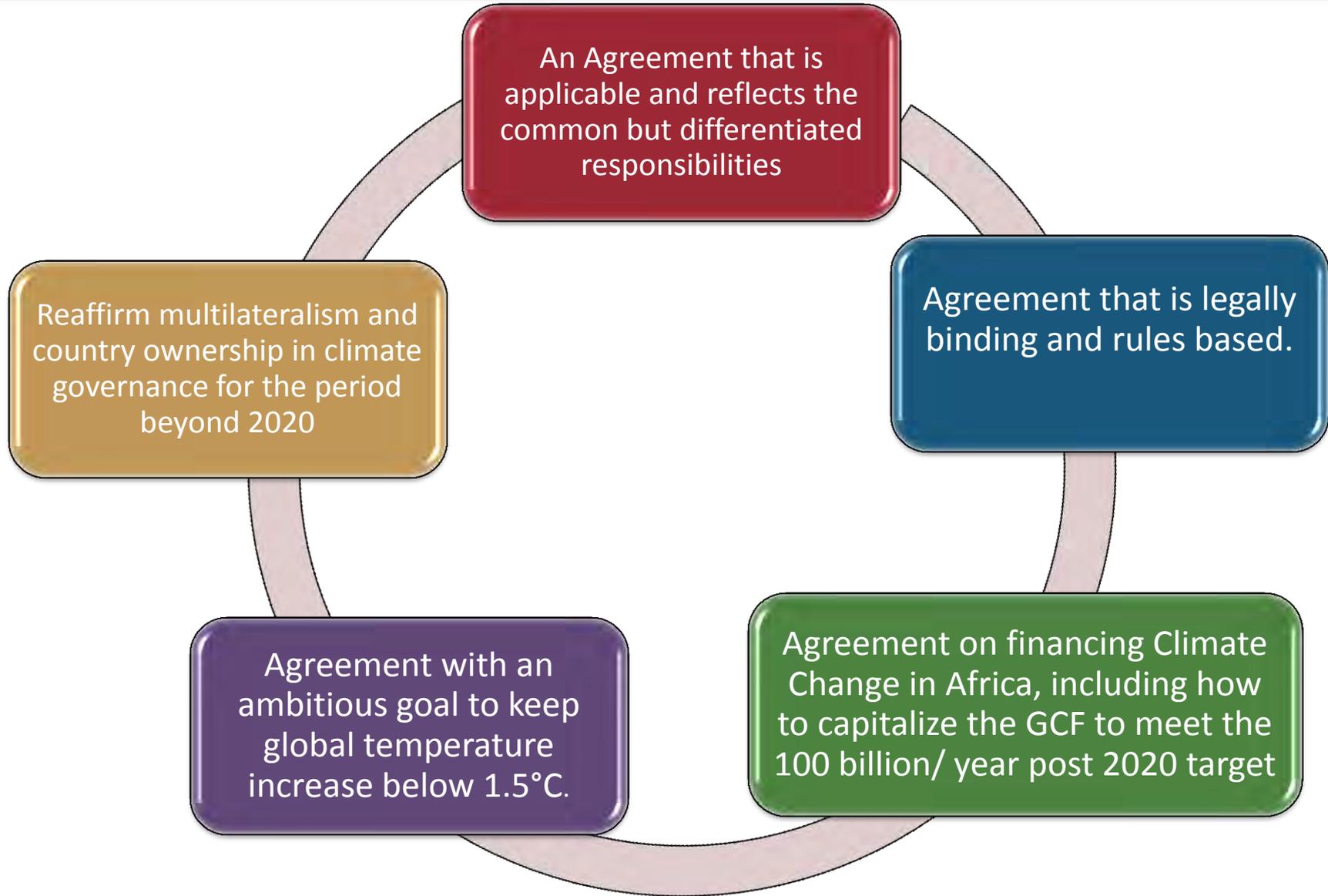
AMCEN

- Established in 1985
- Provides political guidance to the development of Africa's positions with respect to multilateral environmental agreements
- Developing common positions to guide AGN in negotiations

CAHOSCC

- Established in 2009 by AU to spearhead African Common Position and to ensure that Africa speaks with one voice in global climate change negotiations.
- Made up of 12 Heads of State and Government

CoP 21 will be successful for Africa if:



Outstanding issues

Approach & Architecture

- Should agreement apply to all countries, unlike the Kyoto Protocol which commits developed nations only

Legal nature of Agreements

- Some parties including EU favour a strong legally binding agreement committing all parties to quantifiable mitigation commitments, others prefer a softer approach based on voluntary contributions.

Fairness and Equity

- Under the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, capabilities and historic responsibilities. Developed countries expected to make larger contribution to emissions reductions and finance but the size and extent is far from agreed. .

Scope

Developed economies including the EU see mitigation as the central element. The balance between different elements, and especially the question of legal parity between mitigation and adaptation will be the subject of further negotiations.

Some aspects of African Position on Climate Change

- increase the capability of Africa to address adaptation to climate change more effectively, through ***support to national climate change adaptation programmes*** such as NAPAs
- Mobilize and provide ***additional financial resources to Africa*** for climate friendly technologies to address both the urgent adaptation and mitigation needs.
- Participation of Africa in market based mechanisms to address climate change through support to ***institutional capacity*** and ***building a critical mass of experts*** especially in carbon trade and climate negotiation
- ***Gender specific needs*** and protection measures and involve women in aspects of decision making related to adaptation and mitigation.

AFRICA'S PARTICIPATION AT THE COP

i. Africa Pavilion:

- A physical space at COP 21 for formal and informal meetings of different African participants.
- The Africa Pavilion is a joint initiative of the NEPAD Agency, AfDB, AUC and UNECA.

ii. Africa Day:

The COP21 Africa Day will be targeting primarily African leaders and general African stakeholders participating at COP21 and the broad range of development partners and the donor community.

iii. NEPAD Organized Side Events

- Climate Change and Agriculture
- Financing Climate Change in Africa
- NEPAD Environment Action Plan (Regional Flagship Programmes)

Beyond Paris CoP 21

What will Africa do?

High Level political coordination

Policy Coherence

Advocate for agriculture to be included in the negotiations

What Africa expects from Partners

Support for Programmatic Activities

Financial Support and technical support

Support capacity building efforts including technology

Thank You

Contact:

Estherine Lisinge-Fotabong

Email: estherinef@nepad.org

