

# *AfricaInteract*

## **Enabling research-to-policy linkage for adaptation to climate change in Africa**

by

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# Presentation outline

Introduction

Strategic focus of AfricalInteract

Implementation framework

Objectives, Outputs

Key activities and achievements



# Introduction

Climate is hardly a new factor in Africa's history but with global warming the continent's vulnerability is deepening making it the most exposed region in the world to the impact of climate change (World Bank 2006)



# Introduction contd

- However, there is a lot of uncertainty regarding the pace and extent of change and the impacts on different sub-regions, sectors, nations and communities.
- This uncertainty makes **policy decisions** more complex and magnifies the need for Africa to build its knowledge and analytical base and strengthen the capacity of country and regional institutions to address issues related to climate change.



# Challenges in Policy Research

- Producing the evidence to guide policy;
- Engaging with the policy world to ensure that policy responds to the evidence; and
- Understanding the real impacts of such policies and policy change.
- A fourth challenge lies with policy makers providing a fast enough response to meet the urgency of the situation

(Alliance of the CGIAR Centers, 2009).



# *AfricaInteract*

## IDRC interventions





# Climate Change adaptation in Africa (CCAA)

The CCAA Program supported by the IDRC and DFID was launched in 2006 with the following areas of focus:

- (i) **Participatory action research** resulting in adoption of solutions beneficial to vulnerable African communities
- (ii) **Education and training** resulting in the strengthening of the capacity of African scientists through workshops and research bursary program - Adaptation to Climate Change Fellowship Programme (ACCFP);
- (iii) **Communication and networking** through the creation of a web-based tool such as AfricaAdapt



# Strategic focus of AfricalInteract



- A virtual and physical space for a dynamic multi-stakeholder process that will **facilitate interactions** and knowledge flows among key stakeholders at both **regional and continental levels** with regard to climate change adaptation.

Agriculture



Health



Water

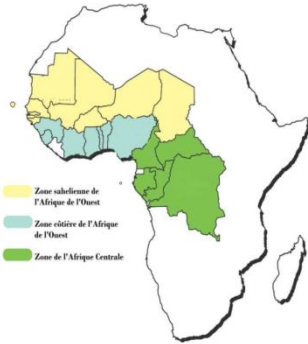


Urban

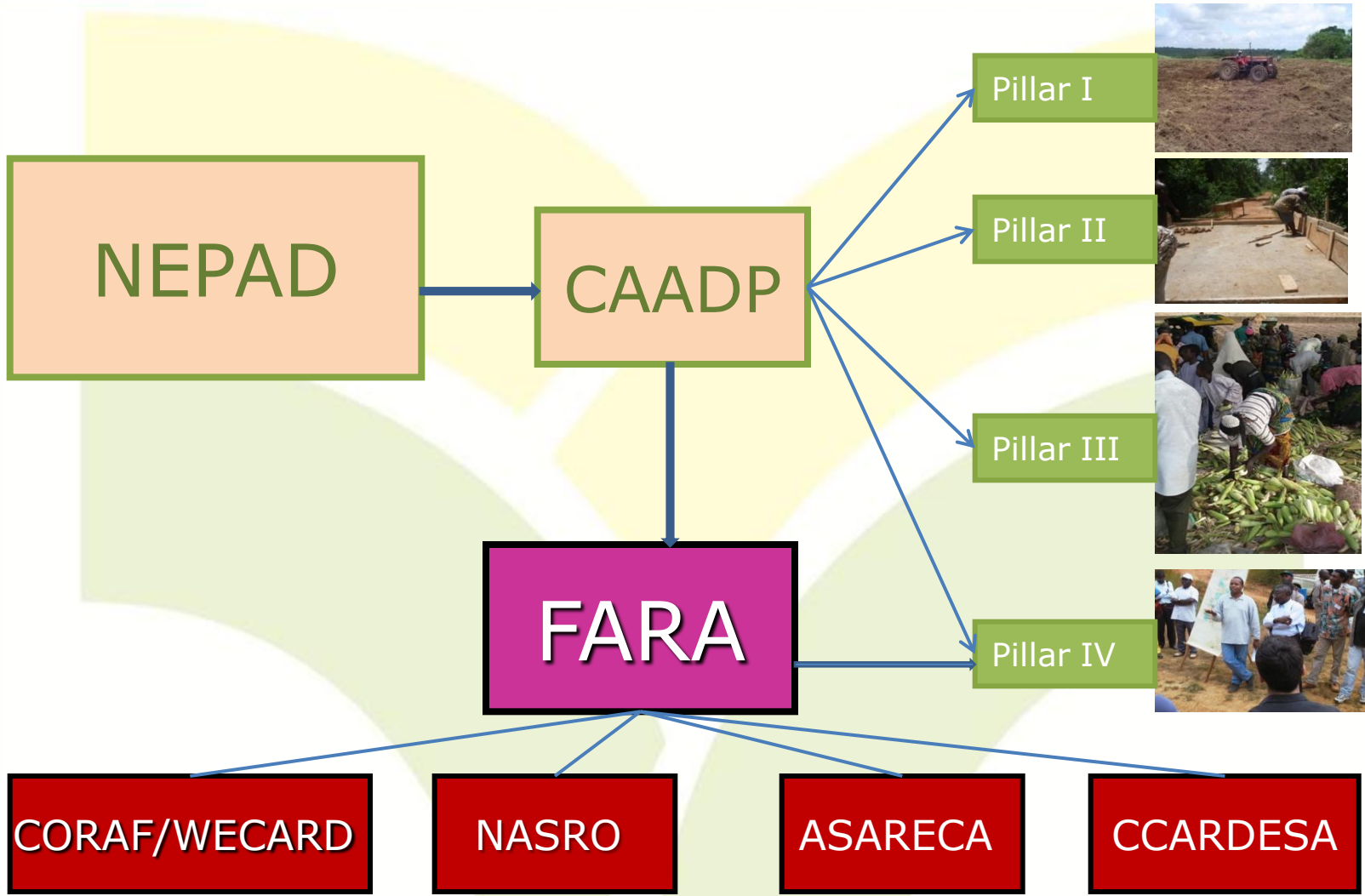




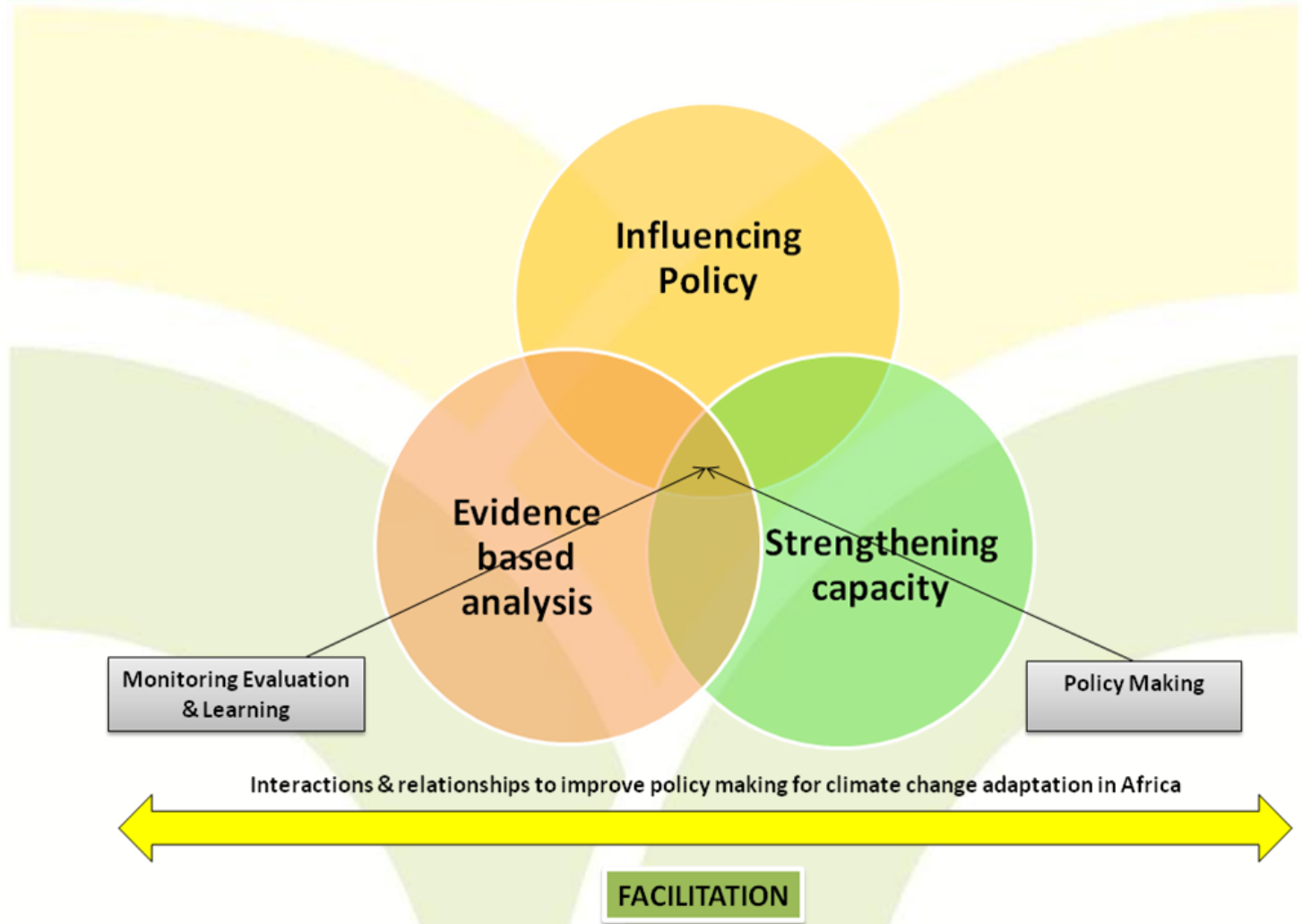
# Continental Coverage



# Link with Africa's Development Framework



# Model for facilitating interactions



# Objectives

## General:

- Develop a platform for the effective and efficient **transfer of information from researchers to policy makers**, with the ultimate aim of enhancing the resilience of vulnerable populations

## Specific:

- Promote and support effective **documentation and sharing of information** to improve climate change adaptation policy in Africa
- **Identify policy gaps**, support related action research, and promote the integration of climate change research into development policies, strategies, programs and projects at **continental and sub-regional levels**



# Outputs

Climate Change information and knowledge system improved and promoted

Gaps in current knowledge on climate change policy research addressed

Framework for discussions and development of climate change policy options established

Capacity of sub-regional and continental decision-makers to articulate policy options for climate change adaptation strengthened





# Key activities

- Analyze gaps in relevant policy-options to enhance an enabling environment for adaptation to climate change
- Support appropriate packaging and dissemination of relevant climate related information
- Organize strategic workshops and round tables involving research scientists and decision-makers to facilitate dialogue and capitalize on synergies
- Train target groups on key issues to enable them to effectively analyze climate change issues and negotiate effectively
- Provide support for appropriate individuals and organizations to attend international conferences and effectively articulate Africa's position on climate change



# AfricaInteract Advisory Board

No	Name	Organization
1	Dr Ramadjita Tabo	Deputy Executive Director, FARA
2	Dr Lindiwe Majele Sibanda	CEO , FANRPARN
3	Dr Youba Sokona	Director ; African Climate Policy Center- UNECA, Addis- Ethiopia
4	Dr Amor Chermiti	Directeur of Research, Tunisia
5	Dr Bitondo Dieudonné	Secrétaire Exécutif; Secrétariat pour l'Evaluation Environnementale en Afrique Centrale (SEEAC)
6	Prof. Ruth K. Oniang'o	Founder, Rural Outreach Program (ROP), Kenya
7	Dr Timothy Williams	Africa Region Director; International Water Management Institute (IWMI)
8	Prof. Adandedjan C. Claude	President, Science and Technical Committee (STC)
9	Isabelle Proulx	IDRC Representative



# Key achievements

- More than 80 (eighty) key stakeholders including policymakers, scientists, development workers and farmers have been linked for possible collaboration on adaptation to climate change in West and East Africa where sensitization workshops have been held
- At least 15 (Fifteen) high level decision makers/decision influencing positions in West, East and Central Africa (including ministers and permanent secretaries as well as head of key organizations) have increased appreciation of the need for informed policy formulation with regards to climate change adaptation.
- More than 50 senior scientists in West, East and central Africa have increased awareness and appreciation of the need for effective linkage with policy makers for the use of research results in policy formulation related to climate change adaptation
- Significant progress in establishing an effective linkage between research and regional economic bodies in West and Central Africa



# Other key planned activities

- Sensitization in central and Southern Africa
- Synthesis of research results – on going
- Workshop on key institutions and conventions, protocols related to climate change (IPCC, UNFCCC, Biodiversity, Displaced persons etc)
- Packaging and dissemination of relevant information
- Facilitating representation of African position at key international conferences on climate change adaptation



**THANK YOU/MERCI**

