Covenant of Mayors in Sub-Saharan Africa
This chapter is one component of the SEACAP Toolbox for the full Toolbox, please visit: https://comssa.org/

What you will learn in this chapter:
• Why respond to climate change
• The 4 phases of developing a SEACAP
• The adaptation specific components of developing a SEACAP

This chapter has been designed for Facilitators, trainers as well as local government officials and partners completing a SEACAP
THE 3 PILLARS OF A SEACAP

Mitigation

Adaption

Access to Energy
Climate change adaptation is the process of adjustment to actual or expected climate change and its effects.

Adaptation actions are undertaken in anticipation of the adverse effects of climate change and aim to prevent or minimize the damage the impacts of climate change can cause and/or take advantage of opportunities that may arise.
Why respond to climate change?

- Climate change has the capability to exacerbate and compound current challenges such as water and sanitation issues, poverty and access to energy whilst adding new problems for local government planners to solve.
Why respond to climate change?

- Climate change can potentially reduce future economic, environmental and social costs associated with impacts of climate change;

- Effective planning will not only reduce the impacts of climate change but enhance the potential for harnessing opportunities associated with them.
Impacts of Climate Change in Africa

- Climate change could decrease mixed rain-fed and semi-arid systems, particularly the length of the growing period, e.g. on the margins of the Sahel.
- Some assessments show increased water stress and possible runoff decreases in parts of North Africa by 2050. While climate change should be considered in any future negotiations to share Nile water, the role of water basin management is also key.
- Rainfall is likely to increase in some parts of East Africa, according to some projections, resulting in various hydrological outcomes.
- Previously malaria-free highland areas in Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda and Burundi could experience modest changes to stable malaria by the 2050s, with conditions for transmission becoming highly suitable by the 2080s.
- Ecosystem impacts, including impacts on mountain biodiversity, could occur. Declines in fisheries in some major East African lakes could occur.

West and Central Africa
- Impacts on crops, under a range of scenarios.
- Possible agricultural GDP losses ranging from 2% to 4% with some model estimations.
- Populations of West Africa living in coastal settlements could be affected by projected rise in sea levels and flooding.
- Changes in coastal environments (e.g. mangroves and coastal degradation) could have negative impacts on fisheries and tourism.

Southern Africa
- Assessments of water availability, including water stress and water drainage, show that parts of southern Africa are highly vulnerable to climate variability and change. Possible heightened water stress in some river basins.
- Southward expansion of the transmission zone of malaria may likely occur.
- By 2089, dune floods may become highly dynamic, from northern South Africa to Angola and Zambia.
- Some biomes, for example the Fynbos and Succulent Karoo in southern Africa, are likely to be the most vulnerable ecosystems to projected climate changes, whilst the savanna is argued to be more resilient.
- Food security, already a humanitarian crisis in the region, is likely to be further aggravated by climate variability and change, aggravated by HIV/AIDS, poor governance and poor adaptation.

Covenant of Mayors in Sub-Saharan Africa
Key steps for developing a SEACAP

**Year 0**
- Political Commitment
- Signature of MOU

**Year 2**
- Baseline Emissions Inventory (BEI); Risk and Vulnerability Assessment (RVA)
- Access to Energy Assessment (AEA)

**Year 3**
- Sustainable Energy Access and Climate Action Plan
- Submission of the document

**Initiation**
- Political commitment
- Mobilize all municipal departments involved
- Stakeholders engagement

**Planning**
- Gain better understanding of local emissions, vulnerability to climate change impacts and access to energy services.
- Current policy framework

**Climate Mitigation**
- Prepare a Baseline Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions inventory: The inventory determines baseline emissions, identifying main emission sources and reduction opportunities.

**Climate Adaptation**
- Prepare a Climate Change Risk and Vulnerability Assessment (CRA): Cities conduct a CRA to identify current and future climate risks to people and assets.

**Establishment of the vision, where do we want to go? > TARGET**

Elaboration of the plan: how do we get there? > ACTIONS

What to consider when designing actions to reach the targets?

**Implementation**
- Deliver practical actions

**Monitoring and reporting**
- Review progress and readjust priorities

Covenant of Mayors in Sub-Saharan Africa
Phase 1: Initiation Phase

- Obtain political commitment
- Mobilize all municipal departments involved and setting up city lead and its team
- Stakeholder engagement
- Desktop research to identify sources of information and what information to source (NDC, National Adaptation Plan, Climate change related strategy, Local development Plan, scientific reports, etc.)
- Sensitization
Phase 2: Planning Phase

- Developing a Risk and Vulnerability Assessment (R&VA)
- Setting a Adaptation/ Climate Resilient Goal
- Developing a Climate Change Adaptation Plan
Phase 2.1: What is a R&VA?

- A R&VA is intended to act as a baseline to guide local governments on the key sectors and population groups at risk to the impacts of climate change.
- It provides an overview of their current climate and its hazards.
- The R&VA also provides an overview of how hazards are likely to change in the future as a result of the impacts of climate change.
Phase 2.1: What is a R&VA?

One of the most important benefits of the R&VA is that it highlights sectors within the local government area that are currently being impacted by climate hazards, to what degree, as well as how, and to what degree they could be impacted by climate change in the future.
Phase 2.1: What is a R&VA?

• The R&VA typically provides an indication of which population groups are most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change both currently and in the future.

• It is important to note that a R&VA does not provide any actions to address the impacts of climate change on vulnerable sectors and population groups. These are included in the Climate Change Adaptation Action Plan.
Phase 2.2: What is a Adaptation/Climate Resilient Goal?

- An overarching goal (the adaptation/climate resilient goal) should be set to guide the direction of a climate change adaptation action plan.
- The overarching adaptation/climate resilient goal must align with the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) objectives and other national plans and strategies.
Phase 2.2: What is a Adaptation/Climate Resilient Goal?

- An Adaptation/Climate Resilient Goal takes the form of a broad statement that speaks to the desired future state of the local government in terms of its resilience to the impacts of climate change.
- Its base year for implementation (i.e. the year that the goal is set) must be stated.
- The target year (i.e. the year to achieve the goal) to reach it must also be stated.
Phase 2.3: What is a Climate Change Adaptation Plan?

- A Climate Change Adaptation Action Plan (CCAAP) includes sector specific actions to meet the sector goals.

- Actions included in a CCAAP respond/adapt to the impacts of climate change whilst taking the local planning context and development aspirations into account.
Phase 2.3:
What is a Climate Change Adaptation Plan?

• The CCAAP will include detailed information on each identified action per sector including timeframe, stakeholders involved, implementing partners, cost, financing source, policy instruments, etc.)

• The CCAAP will also highlight priority actions according to the local government’s context, budget and goals.
Phase 2.3: What is a Climate Change Adaptation Plan?

- The creation of a CCAAP offers local government an opportunity to not only plan for climate change in a proactive way and thereby enhance the resilience of the local community, but the opportunity to capitalise on the benefits of responding to climate change, including growing along a more sustainable development trajectory.
Phase 3: Implementation

- The implementation phase involves physically implementing the adaptation actions identified to make them a reality. This phase takes the longest time, the most efforts and the largest portion of financial resources;
- It requires the involvement of all stakeholders, including national authorities, academia, private sector, CSOs and communities;
- Communication and sensitization are crucial to ensure citizens’ buy-in.
There is an offline Excel-based reporting template developed by the Joint Research Centre which aims at guiding local governments on submitting the contents of their SEACAP;

Once the SEACAP is submitted, it is required to regularly monitor the implementation of the actions and update the reporting template accordingly. This will ensure continuous improvement of the SEACAP over time;
Phase 4: Monitoring and Reporting

- This phase also ensures the MRV, benchmarking and visibility of your SEACAP through an internationally recognised reporting platform.
Example of how SEACAP reporting template looks for R&VAs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Climate hazard</th>
<th>Current risks</th>
<th>Future hazard</th>
<th>Vulnerable context</th>
<th>Adaptive capacity</th>
<th>Indicators</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Extreme heat</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extreme cold</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Livestock</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HA</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flood</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disease</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drought</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Storm</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flood</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disease</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Low</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: CoM SSA reporting template.
### Example of how SEACAP reporting template looks for climate action reporting

#### Action plan: Adaptation Actions

| Sector | Title | Short description | Climate hazard(s) addressed | Responsible body/department | Policy | Origin of the action | Implementation timeframe | Implementation status | Action plan initiation | Action plan initiation status | Action plan initiation status status | Stakeholders involved | Stakeholders involved status | Vulnerability indicator | Related indicators | Document(s) reached (stage) | Costs | Key action |
|--------|-------|-------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|--------|----------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|----------------|---------------------|
| [Deep Soil] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] |
| [Deep Soil] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] |
| [Deep Soil] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] |
| [Deep Soil] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] |
| [Deep Soil] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] |
| [Deep Soil] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] |
| [Deep Soil] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] |
| [Deep Soil] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] |
| [Deep Soil] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] | [Drop-down] |

**Comments and methodological specifications:**

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The next chapter is Session 4.3: SEACAP Initiation
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