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# COMESA STRATEGY ON CLIMATE CHANGE 2020-2030





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## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

ACCF	Africa Climate Change Fund
ACMAD	African Centre for Meteorological Applications for Development
ACPC	Africa Climate Policy Centre
AfDB	African Development Bank
AFOLU	Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use
AGN	African Group of Negotiators
AMCEN	African Ministerial Conference on the Environment
AMU	Arab Maghreb Union
ARC	African Risk Capacity
AU	African Union
AUC	African Union Commission
AUDA	African Union Development Agency
BTR	Biennial Transparency Reports
CAPC-CA	Climate Application and Prediction Centre for Central Africa
CAHOSCC	Committee of Africa Heads of State and Government on Climate Change
CBIT	Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency
CDM	Clean Development Mechanism
COMESA	Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa
COP	Conference of Parties
CSA	Climate Smart Agriculture
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
DRM	Disaster Risk Management
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
EAC	East African Community
ECCAS	Economic Community for Central African States
ESA	Eastern and Southern Africa
ETF	Enhanced Transparency Framework
FAO	Food and Agricultural Organisation
FDI	Foreign Direct Investment
FEMCOM	Federation of National Associations of Women in Business in Eastern and Southern Africa

GCF	Green Climate Fund
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
ICPAC	IGAD Climate Prediction and Application Centre
IOC	Indian Ocean Commission
IGAD	Intergovernmental Authority on Development
IPCC	International Panel on Climate Change
KP	Kyoto Protocol
LDCs	Least Developed Countries
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MS	Member State
MRV	Monitoring, Reporting and Verification
MTSP	Medium Term Strategic Plan
NDCs	Nationally Determined Contributions
NEPAD	New Partnership for Africa's Development
NGO	Non-Governmental Organizations
ODA	Official Development Assistance
PA	Paris Agreement
RCC	Regional Climate Centers
REC	Regional Economic Community
RE 100	100% Renewable Energy
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SIDS	Small Island Developing States
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNDRR	United Nations Disaster Risk Reduction
UNECA	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
WHO	World Health Organization
WMO	World Meteorological Organisation
WWF	Worldwide Fund
ZEP -RE	PTA Reinsurance Company

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) is a regional economic community of 21 Member States with a population of over 560 million people spread across 11.8 million km<sup>2</sup> of land. It has a combined gross domestic product of US\$ 768 billion and a vibrant youth population of over 100 million (COMESA, 2020).

The COMESA Vision is stated as follows: *'to be a fully integrated economic community that is prosperous, internationally competitive, and ready to merge into the African Economic Community.'*

The attainment of this Vision is threatened by the impacts of climate change as Africa faces the greatest threats as a result of the interaction of multiple stressors including; low adaptive capacity, weak systems and governance, poverty and dependence on climate vulnerable activities. Unfortunately, the continent finds itself in a predicament of having to balance advancing the development agenda and responding to climate change. This is despite Africa having contributed the least to the accumulated greenhouse gases that are responsible for the crisis.

The COMESA region has diverse ecosystems, landscapes and climates including rainforests, drylands, deserts, highlands, savannahs and tropical islands. Climate change causes extreme weather events varying from large decreases in precipitation, more frequent and intense tropical storms and cyclones, recurring droughts and rising sea levels. The ever-increasing threat of unpredictable and extreme weather impacts the COMESA sub-regions differently adding a layer of complexity to the crisis.

Climate change is robbing the future of today's children and youth who are especially vulnerable. As the COMESA youth population represents 20%, the impacts of climate change on the youth will be significant: school disruptions, social and political disorders, food insecurity, diseases and threats to water and sanitation services.

Women are also affected disproportionately due to their higher levels of poverty, lack of education and low involvement in decision making processes. They make up 70% of people below the poverty line. Traditional women responsibilities are vulnerable to climate change as their sustenance depends on environmental resources like water, firewood and other forest products and growing and preparing food.

Member States lack the means, technology and institutions to effectively adapt to changing climatic conditions and increased risk of extreme weather events further increasing the bloc's vulnerability to climate change. Yet economic development must continue for the countries to overcome widespread poverty. This is the quandary that COMESA Member States find themselves together with other African countries.

Adaptation is unquestionably and rightly the top priority for COMESA countries. However, the region possesses significant mitigation potential in its vast land mass, forests, agricultural systems and oceans that is often overlooked. The COMESA bloc has unrivalled potential for renewable energy, particularly solar energy for its own development with surplus for exports. This potential should be developed and quantified and put on the table as the region's contribution in return for the finance and technology needed to adapt to and develop despite climate change.

COMESA is one of 8 recognised regional economic communities that make up the African Union. Agenda 2063 is the 50-year development blueprint of the African Union that calls for united efforts, self-reliance, Africa financing its own climate smart all-inclusive and people-driven development and speaking with one voice in global fora. The COMESA Treaty echoes the same sentiments as Agenda 2063 and together they provide the guiding philosophy of the COMESA Strategy on Climate Change.

The Overall Objective of the COMESA Strategy on Climate Change is to bring about the achievement of the COMESA Vision by building the resilience of the region to the impacts of climate change. The Specific Objectives are the attainment of SDG 13: '*take urgent action to combat climate change*' and attainment of the Paris Agreement goal of less than 2°C global temperature rise by 2100. The Strategy has three main results:

**Result 1:** Competent institutions

**Result 2:** Effective support to Member States

**Result 3:** Enhanced access to finance and technology

The Strategy is intended for the COMESA Secretariat together with its oversight Policy Organs, specialised institutions and Member State departments and agencies responsible for climate change. Other regional economic communities, non-governmental organizations, partners and the private sector in the region are invited to align their strategies with the COMESA Strategy on Climate Change for coherence of climate action in the eastern and southern Africa region.

## PART I: INTRODUCTION

The Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) was established in 1994 to replace the Preferential Trade Area for Eastern and Southern Africa (PTA) which was set up in 1981 within the framework of the Organization of the African Unity's Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos. COMESA is comprised of 21 Member States (MS) which cover an area of about 11 million km<sup>2</sup>. It straddles 4 of the 5 regions of Africa; southern, eastern, central and northern Africa with a population of just over 560 million people. The combined nominal gross domestic product of COMESA countries is US\$ 768 billion (COMESA, 2020). The MS of COMESA are Burundi, Comoros, Djibouti, DR Congo, Egypt, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Kenya, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Rwanda, Seychelles, Somalia, Sudan, Tunisia, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

The COMESA Vision is *'to be a fully integrated internationally competitive regional economic community with high standards of living for all its people ready to merge into and African Economic Community.'* This Vision is realized through 5-year Medium Term Strategic Plans (MTSP).

The aims and objectives of COMESA in Article 3 of the Treaty are to:

- Attain sustainable growth and development of the MS
- Promote joint development and adoption of common policies and programmes
- Strengthen relations with the rest of the world
- Attract foreign, cross border and domestic investment
- Promote research and technology adoption

The sectoral clusters identified for cooperation and integration of the economies of the region are trade and customs, transport and communications, industry and energy, monetary affairs and finance, agriculture and environment, natural resources and wildlife, economic and social development, gender and youth, private sector development, science and technology.

The key principles underpinning the COMESA integration programme and hence this Strategy include:

- Inter-dependency and collective self-reliance
- Harmonisation of policies and integration of programmes
- Maintenance of peace and stability, people's rights and justice
- Adoption of common positions in international fora

The organs of COMESA that drive this regional integration agenda are: the Authority of the Heads of State and Government, the Council of Ministers, the Intergovernmental Committee, Sector Ministerial and Technical Committees, the Secretariat and the Court of Justice. Specialised institutions of COMESA are the Trade and Development Bank (Bujumbura, Burundi), Africa Trade Insurance Agency (Nairobi, Kenya), PTA Reinsurance Company (Nairobi, Kenya), COMESA Competition Commission (Lilongwe, Malawi), Africa Leather and Leather Products Institute (Addis Ababa, Ethiopia), COMESA Clearing House (Harare, Zimbabwe), Regional Investment Agency (Cairo, Egypt), COMESA Monetary Institute (Nairobi, Kenya), Federation of National Associations of Women in Business in Eastern and Southern Africa (FEMCOM) (Lilongwe, Malawi), COMESA Business Council (Lusaka, Zambia) and Alliance for Commodity Trade in Eastern and Southern Africa (Lusaka, Zambia).

COMESA is the largest of the eight recognised regional economic communities (RECs) that make up the African Union (AU). The COMESA Strategy on Climate Change is thus developed within the spirit of the AU's Agenda 2063, the applicable continental frameworks and strategies and the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It is aligned with the AU Climate Change Strategy and other continental instruments on disaster risk reduction (DRR), forestry, biodiversity, the blue economy and climate smart agriculture.

Although climate change was not yet a fully-fledged global issue when the COMESA Treaty was ratified in 1993 (the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) was set up in 1992 and entered into force in 1994), many articles of the Treaty deal with the core issues on climate change. To start with, it places special emphasis on supporting the least developed countries (LDCs) and economically depressed areas which turn out to be the most vulnerable to the effects of climate change.

In Article 194 of the Treaty, COMESA MS agreed to exchange meteorological information on hazards like cyclones and other adverse weather phenomena. They also undertook to exchange information and expertise and establish a Regional Meteorological Centre to monitor the atmosphere and climatic changes.

The Treaty recognises that a clean and attractive environment is a prerequisite for long term economic growth. It thus calls for the adoption of common policies to preserve, protect and improve the quality of the environment and ecosystems, the rational and prudent utilisation of natural resources, joint utilisation of training, research and capacity building facilities. The MS also undertook to develop special environmental management strategies.

In Article 122.6, the Treaty enshrines the polluter pays principle which is an overarching principle of environmental responsibility.

COMESA shares MS with other RECs and commissions in eastern and southern Africa (ESA). These are: Arab Maghreb Union (AMU), East African Community (EAC), Economic Community for Central African States (ECCAS), Intergovernmental Authority for Development (IGAD), Southern African Development Community (SADC) and the Indian Ocean Commission (IOC). All these institutions have climate change policies, strategies or action plans that are due for or are being updated.

There are other continental and regional entities that are prime movers in climate change in the region. These include development partners, the African Development Bank (AfDB) Group, international non-governmental organisations (INGOs), civil society organisations (CSOs), academia, private actor and Africa-focused UN agencies and directorates.

All COMESA MS are parties to the UNFCCC and are engaged in various climate change responses with active programmes in line with their priorities and commitments under the Paris Agreement (PA) and in their nationally determined contributions (NDCs).

An opportunity thus exists for harmonizing all these new or updated strategies with the COMESA Strategy on Climate Change for a seamless continental effort to tackle climate change.

### Objectives of the COMESA Strategy on Climate Change

The Comprehensive Framework for COMESA's Climate Change Initiative: 2009 – 2013 that was approved by the COMESA Authority in 2009 has been the guiding blueprint for the climate change initiative of COMESA. Its objectives and core tenets are as valid today as they were more than a decade ago.

By improving alignment and coordination of efforts, resources and capacities of the main actors described above, more progress can be made at lower cost and more efficiency in the fight against climate change at the national, regional, continental and global levels. The COMESA Strategy on Climate Change aims to contribute to this.

The Strategy defines the main parameters for an effective climate change response in the COMESA region that builds resilient adaptive capacities and unlocks the benefits of the mitigation potential of the region. It also provides a framework for a more effective participation at the UNFCCC and other international fora.

The Overall Objective of the COMESA Strategy on Climate Change is to bring about the achievement of the COMESA Vision by building the resilience of the region to the impacts of climate change.

The Specific Objectives are the attainment of SDG 13: '*take urgent action to combat climate change*' and attainment of PA goal of less than 2°C global temperature rise by 2100. The Strategy has three broad results:

**Result 1:** Competent institutions

**Result 2:** Effective support to Member States

**Result 3:** Enhanced access to finance and technology

## PART II: GLOBAL CONTEXT OF CLIMATE CHANGE

### The Science

Climate change continues to present a growing and significant global challenge to humanity and all living things on the planet. Today, climate change and its far-reaching impacts are no longer on the sidelines. Accumulating scientific evidence shows that the impacts of global warming are occurring sooner than anticipated. The fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) of 2014 confirmed that the human influence on the climate system has been the dominant cause of the observed warming since the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century. The Report goes on to suggest that more than half of the observed increase in global average surface temperature from 1951 to 2010 was caused by the anthropogenic increase in greenhouse gas (GHG) concentrations.

The atmospheric concentrations of carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous oxide have increased to levels unprecedented in more than 800,000 years. Carbon dioxide concentrations have increased by 40% since pre-industrial times, primarily from burning fossil fuels and land use change. From 1750 to 2011, carbon dioxide emissions from fossil fuel combustion and cement production have released 375 gigatons of carbon to the atmosphere, while deforestation and other land use change are estimated to have released 180 gigatons of carbon. This results in cumulative anthropogenic emissions of 555 gigatons of carbon. The effects of these gases together with those of other anthropogenic drivers are the main causes of the observed global warming.

The IPCC confirmed that carbon dioxide generated by the burning of massive quantities of fossil fuels, is by far the biggest cause of the greenhouse effect that leads to global warming. This increase in global average temperatures is what is causing changes in the global climate and weather that are now visible everywhere on the planet. Effects of climate change range from erratic rainfall patterns, rising ocean temperatures and acidity levels, freak weather events such as increased frequency and severity of cyclones and hurricanes, droughts, floods, storm surges, melting of glaciers and ice caps leading to sea level rise; impacting all forms of life on earth..

The predicted impacts of climate change are progressively being felt across the region with devastating consequences. Extreme weather events are occurring with increased frequency and severity, threatening development gains and making it harder to attain the COMESA Vision, Agenda 2063, the SDGs and national development goals. Continued emissions of GHGs will cause further warming and changes in all components of the climate system. Limiting climate change will require substantial and sustained reductions of GHG emissions.

### **Kyoto Protocol**

All countries have been seized with the impacts of climate change under the auspices of the UN for many decades resulting in the signing of many multilateral environmental agreements. The UNFCCC was established in 1992 to find a lasting solution and arrest the global temperature rise. The Kyoto Protocol (KP) was the first global agreement on climate change that was signed in 1997 and became international law in 2005. Its objective was to slow down global warming by reducing the concentration of GHGs to a level that would prevent dangerous interference with the global climate system. The Protocol put the onus to reduce emissions on developed countries that were mainly responsible for the increase in the concentrations of GHGs in the atmosphere. The KP has two commitment periods; 2008-2012 and 2012-2020, during which many of the developed countries met their emission reduction targets. However, some withdrew from the Protocol and others opted for its flexibility to fund emission reductions in other countries which was easier than cutting down their national emissions. This was the genesis of the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) and the birth of the carbon market and carbon trading.

### **Paris Agreement**

Negotiations continued to be held at the annual UNFCCC Conferences of Parties (COP) for a post the KP regime leading to the Paris Agreement (PA) that was reached in 2015 as an entirely separate instrument from the KP. As of 2020, all UNFCCC members had signed the PA and 189 ratified it (UNFCCC, 2020).

The PA's goal is to limit average global temperature rise to less than 2°C below pre-industrial levels and make efforts to further limit the increase to below 1.5°C by the turn of the century. It gives special attention to the need for all Parties to adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change, with an emphasis on improved access to finance and technology by the more vulnerable countries. A crucial feature of the PA is the global stocktakes which will be carried out every five years starting in 2023.

The PA allows each country to determine and report regularly on its own contribution and undertakings to limit global warming. These voluntary commitments are the NDCs. There are no mandatory NDC targets, nonetheless, each new target must be more ambitious than the one it replaces and reflect the country's highest possible ambition. While the NDCs are not legally binding, the Parties are required to have their progress tracked by technical experts and determine how ambitions can be increased. The Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF) establishes harmonised monitoring, reporting and verification (MRV) requirements. Developed and developing Parties to the UNFCCC are subject to the same technical and peer reviews. To assist developing countries in meeting their NDCs and build the necessary institutions and capacities to comply with the ETF, the PA set up the Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT). In 2020 all nations are to submit updated or revised NDC commitments with expectations that they will be more ambitious.

Despite current global efforts, commitments and actions, the Emissions Gap Report finds that emissions have risen by 1.5% per annum over the last decade and that G20 nations collectively account for 78% of all emissions (UNEP, 2019). Subsequent reports by the IPCC are likely to paint increasingly grimmer pictures where Africa bears the greatest brunt of the impacts of climate change.

### **Africa at the UNFCCC**

While Parties to the UNFCCC are supposedly equal under international law, weaker physical and economic systems, make African countries more vulnerable to climate change. It is a myth to expect that a small poor country can wield the same influence at the global table as the rich and powerful countries and their groupings. That is why Africa coalesces into the G77 Negotiating Group (plus China) at the UNFCCC where

with its 55 members it is the largest bloc. Within this African group, COMESA is the largest bloc with its 21 MS. The strength in numbers advantage enables the developing world to get important concessions in the KP and PA.

The Committee of African Heads of State and Government on Climate Change (CAHOSCC) was established in 2009 to spearhead the African common position and ensure that Africa speaks with one voice starting at COP15 in Copenhagen, Denmark. The established process is that common positions are arrived at through sustained consultations by the African Union Commission (AUC), RECs, the African Group of Negotiators (AGN), civil society and other stakeholders. The position approved by the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment and endorsed by CAHOSCC. It is what guides the AGN in its interactions and participation in the negotiations.

### **International Support for Implementation**

African NDCs incorporated unconditional and conditional targets. The unconditional targets will be met by the countries using their own resources. The conditional target (85%), depends on aid and other financial support from developed countries, the flow of which has so far been a trickle (AfDB, 2018).

Several funds and capacity building support mechanisms were set up within and outside the UNFCCC to support vulnerable developing countries to adapt to climate change. Substantial amounts have been mobilised or pledged for these initiatives. Despite availability of this support, COMESA MS access to and share of these resources remains very low.

Whilst acknowledging that adapting to climate change and building resilience to the disasters it causes is, and must remain, the top priority action for COMESA MS, it must be recognised that the region has significant mitigation potential which, if unlocked, can make a significant contribution to net zero emission development. Additionally, monetising this mitigation potential can unlock substantial additional resources for implementing the NDCs to bridge the financing gap.

If the COMESA MS continue on current development trajectories, meeting their development aspirations will spike their emissions. However, these contradictory goals can be brought into alignment if MS implement clean, low carbon growth and development strategies in the near term aiming for net zero emission development in the long term. This is the only route to a sustainable and prosperous future.

## COVID-19 Pandemic

The year 2020 was disrupted by the emergence of the novel COVID-19 global pandemic that exposed the fragility of globalization and the interconnected relationship between people, planet and profit; particularly the inextricable symbiotic relationship between human health and the health of the planet. In addition to the inevitable global recession, the world must grapple with the two emergencies simultaneously; climate change and the Covid-19 pandemic. The zoonotic origin of the novel corona virus in wildlife points to the dangers of the disruption and destruction of natural ecosystems and biodiversity, which has brought humans closer to wild animals and their viruses. The destruction of ecosystems is brought about by growing global demand for crops and animal-based products and foods combined with unsustainable production practices (particularly industrial agriculture), and has resulted in the breaching of several planetary boundaries including land use, climate change and genetic diversity (ACPC, 2020). Thus, an effective response to the pandemic must be underpinned by the environment and a changing climate.

The quarantines and lockdowns imposed globally and by all countries to contain COVID-19 nearly collapsed air travel globally, slumped the demand for fossil fuels, decimated incomes for governments, businesses and individuals. COVID-19 led to the postponement of COP22 from 2020 to 2021.

It is not yet known the how much COVID-19 has led to reduction in GHG emissions or its impact on the environment and biodiversity. However, if some of the emerging low-emission trends can be sustained and become the new norms for example, virtual interactions and meetings, digital trade and reduced demand for fossil fuels, then the threat can be turned into a strength that also brings with it new opportunities.

## PART III: CLIMATE CHANGE IN EASTERN AND SOUTHERN AFRICA

### Impacts

As the climate in eastern and southern Africa (ESA) is controlled by a complex mix of weather systems from distant parts of the planet, the African continent and the region itself, any attempts to understand climate change in the region are fraught with challenges. Different parts of ESA are impacted differently by climate change further adding complexity to the crisis. In southern Africa there is a delay in the onset of and an early end to the summer rains. In east Africa, the long rains from March to May are starting later and ending sooner. Central Africa is one of the regions that drives the rest of the planet's weather system. It is now close to the rainfall minimum needed to support this vast rainforest which is the second largest in the world, after the Amazon (Niang et al., 2014).

The region's complex climate system and events are also influenced by the three main oceans. It was out of one of these warming oceans that tropical cyclones Idai and Kenneth emerged killing and displacing thousands of people and destroying parts of Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Malawi and Tanzania in 2019.

The World Bank has projected that there will be about 28 million climate migrants from Africa by 2050 even in the more climate- friendly scenario, and this number goes up to as much as 71 million in pessimistic (high emission, low mitigation and adaptation) scenarios. Sea-level rise, wetter coasts and drier mid-continent areas might induce the displacement of people resulting in increased internal and international migration as would flooding and landslides. Decreasing rainfall leads to poor harvests which can prompt farmers to migrate to cities in search of better livelihoods. The incessant rural-urban migration stretches the ability of city authorities to provide adequate housing, infrastructure and essential services leading to overcrowding, urban squalor resource stress, crime and insecurity. According to the IPCC (2014) although the drivers of migration tend to be complex and include various factors, generally, the displacement of people is projected to increase under continued climate change.

Human health is affected by climate change through the modification of the transmission of diseases such as cholera, malaria, meningitis, and zoonoses such as Ebola and the novel Corona virus. Climate change also affects the social and environmental determinants of health; clean air, safe drinking water, food and shelter. Climate change induced extreme weather events such as flooding, landslides and tropical storms result in fatalities, injuries and property damage. Furthermore, climate change induced floods and cyclones lead to contamination of water supplies increasing the prevalence of vector borne diseases. The World Health Organisation in 2018 predicted that between 2030 and 2050, climate change is expected to cause approximately 250 000 additional deaths per year, from malnutrition, malaria, diarrhea and heat stress. The health of animals and plants that humans depend on is also impacted by climate change in ways that are not yet fully understood.

Agriculture is the main economic activity in Africa where it employs 70% of the labour force and contributes up to 40% of the gross domestic product (World Bank, 2013). The prolonged droughts in the horn of Africa; unprecedented floods in east Africa; shrinking rainforests in equatorial Africa; rising sea levels and acidity; altered weather patterns and other extreme climate events threaten agricultural production, food and job security; health, water and energy security which weaken the region's capacity to develop and sustain growth.

According to Boko et al., rain-fed agriculture productivity could drop by as much as 50% by 2050 in some countries. The IPCC states with high confidence levels that the overall effect of climate change on yields of major cereal crops in Africa is likely to be negative, albeit with strong regional variation (Niang et al. 2014). Worst-case projections (5th percentile) indicate losses of 27–32 % for maize, sorghum, millet and groundnuts for a warming of about 2°C above pre-industrial levels by mid-century (Schlenker and Lobell, 2010).

Arid and semi-arid lands are set to increase with severe ramifications for livelihoods, poverty eradication and meeting the SDGs. In many parts of rural Africa, groundwater is the sole source of safe drinking water (MacDonald et al. 2009). Groundwater recharge rates have been projected to decline by 30–70% in the western parts of

southern Africa and to increase by around 30% in some parts of eastern and southeastern Africa (Doll, 2009).

The impacts of climate change on cities are significant as climate change induced floods, landslides and heavy rainfall can damage different types of infrastructure such as roads and bridges; power generation, transmission and distribution; communication and water reticulation all of which are essential for a well-functioning city. Due to the interconnectedness of the COMESA bloc's activities, the damaging of infrastructure can have a snowball effect impacting many sectors and countries.

### **Climate Change Vulnerability and Poverty**

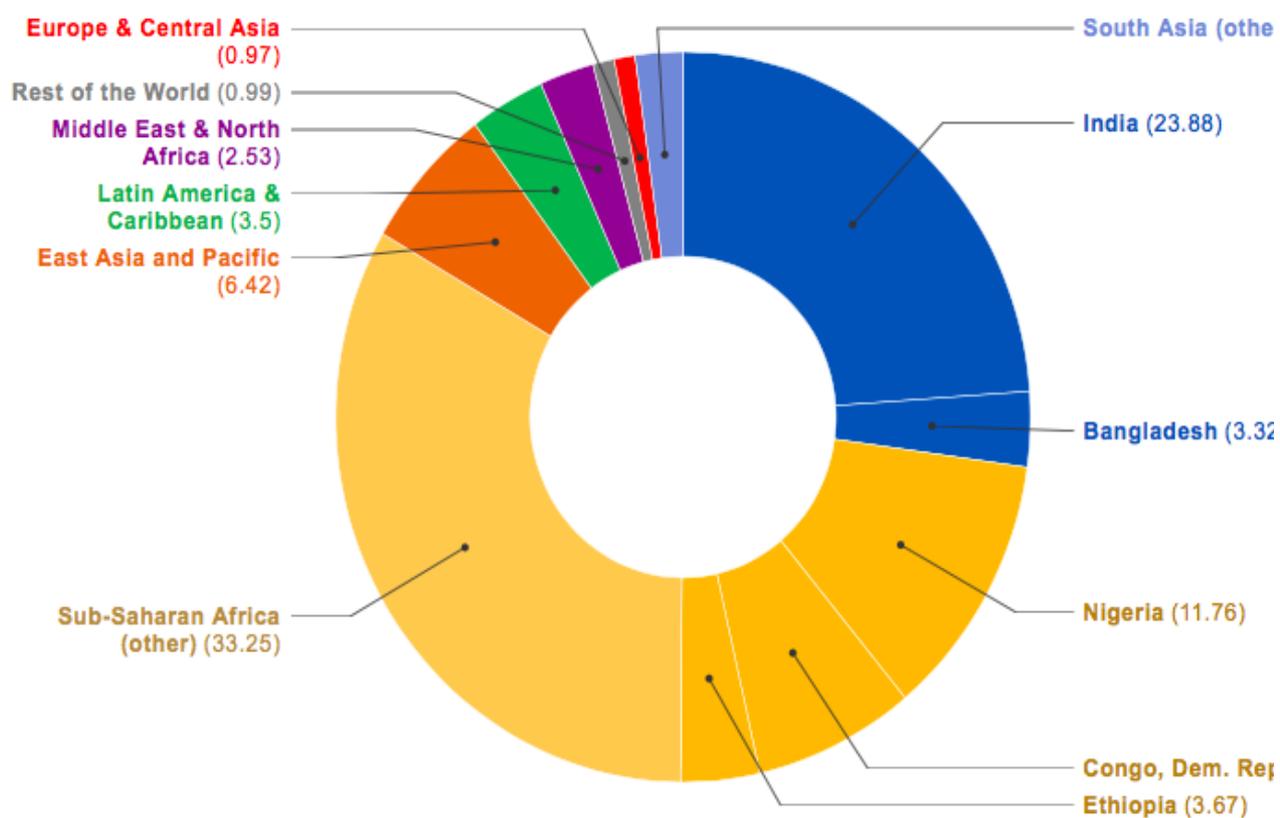
Hamel, Tong and Hafer (2019) approximate that a third of Africans, representing 70% of the world's poor, live below the poverty line. Climate change threatens to further worsen existing poverty levels and hinder progress in the establishment of better living conditions. Under a high-warming scenario, eastern and western Africa, are likely to experience a reduction in GDP per capita by about 15% by 2050. Northern and Southern Africa would experience a decrease in GDP per capita approaching 10% by 2050, while Central Africa could be less affected, with a possible decrease of 5% in the high-warming scenario (ACPC, n.d.).

According to the World Bank (2020), 210 million Africans are affected by conflicts and climate change will compound political, social, economic and environmental instability thus further impacting poverty.

A battle for meagre resources exists between meeting Maslow's basic needs for citizens and responding to climate change. The poverty levels in many MS make addressing climate change a vicious development challenge as poverty slows development which in turn affects climate change responses further worsening poverty.

**Figure 1: Share of Poor People in the World by Region or Country 2015**

**Source: PovcalNet cited in World Bank (2015)**



## Geography

The COMESA region has diverse climates geographical regions:

- Sahara is the world's largest desert making up 25% of the continent;
- Ethiopian Highlands which are the source of the Blue Nile;
- Savannas which cover more than 50% of the region;
- The island states: Comoros, Madagascar Mauritius and Seychelles;
- The Equatorial Rain Forests - Congo Basin covers 2 million km<sup>2</sup>;
- African Great Lakes Region

The COMESA bloc is undoubtedly a diverse region. Climate change will impact each region and sub region differently. The economic, social and political interests also vary widely. This is the challenge that Africa faces in finding a common position on climate change and coordinating harmonised continental, regional and national responses. Consequently, and noting the 80% geographical coverage of African regions, the COMESA Strategy on Climate Change cannot be too prescriptive but must be applicable and relevant to regions and MS with different concerns and circumstances.

## Gender

Climate change is not gender neutral. Multiple stressors account for the discrepancy between women's and men's differentiated exposure and vulnerability to climate change risks. In traditional societies, women's responsibilities are more susceptible to the impacts of climate change further compounding existing gender disparities and enhancing the gender-poverty trap. These responsibilities include growing and preparation of food, cleaning, caring for the young, sick and elderly family members, fetching firewood, forest products and water. Gender-based differences in time use, access to assets and credit and treatment by markets and formal institutions (including the legal and regulatory framework) further constrain women's opportunities. As a result, there is a global gender gap in earnings and productivity; women make between 30 and 80 percent of what men earn annually (UNDP, 2011). Consequently, women making up 70% of those living below the poverty line bearing the heaviest burden of climate change (Oxfam, 2008).

Women are more exposed and vulnerable to climate change because they are often poorer, receive less education. Women make up two thirds of the 774 million adult illiterates, (UN Stats, 2010) and are often not involved in political and household decision-making processes that affect their lives (Habtezion, 2012). A report by the AfDB finds that with minimal access to information, and limited mobility outside their homes, women are 14 times more likely than men to die during natural disasters (Mourdoukoutas, 2016).

## Youth

Climate change poses significant risks to the health and wellbeing of children. The upheavals caused by extreme weather events cause school disruptions, social and political disorders, food insecurity, diseases and threats to water and sanitation services that impact the survival and welfare of children. The impacts of climate change contribute to internal and international migration trends as youth search for greener pastures.

**Figure 2: Women Carrying Firewood Home after Gathering it**

Source: ASEC, (n.d.)



## PART IV: TACKLING CLIMATE CHANGE IN THE ESA REGION

### The COMESA Climate Change Initiative

COMESA was one of the first RECs to realize the potential negative impacts that climate change could have on its regional integration agenda. In 2008, with the support of the Worldwide Fund (WWF), COMESA elaborated the African Biocarbon Initiative which was enthusiastically received at a side event on the margins of the COP 14 in Poznan, Poland that year. This initiative was anchored on the fact that adaptation to climate change was of paramount importance to the African continent and propounded a total landscape, agriculture, forestry and other land use (AFOLU) approach that simultaneously recognised the significant mitigation potential of the African continent as its key contribution to the global discussions on the post KP regime. The African Biocarbon Initiative was transformed into the Comprehensive Framework for COMESA Climate Change 2009-2013 that was approved by the COMESA Summit of Heads of State and Government in 2009. It had eight thematic focus areas:

1. Post KP regime and beyond
2. Enabling policy and institutional framework
3. Enhancing financing mechanisms
4. Enhancing research, information management and communication
5. Enhancing technology transfer
6. Enhancing capacity building
7. Enhancing partnerships
8. Implementing early action projects in agriculture and food security, sustainable energy, ecosystems and biodiversity, sustainable trade and Disaster Risk Management (DRM)

The Framework set the stage for the mainstreaming of climate change into national and regional development policies, strategies and action plans. It was developed as a contribution to a pan African programme implemented by RECs and the AUC with guidance from the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN) and CAHOSCC.

At the end of 2008, COMESA entered into a financing agreement with the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs to support the elaboration of a comprehensive Tripartite climate change initiative bringing together COMESA, EAC and SADC Secretariats to pursue a common programme to promote adaptation and mitigation in the ESA region whilst building resilience for present and future generations. UK AID/ Department for International Development (DfID) and the European Union (EU) later joined and provided substantial resources to support this innovative initiative by three donors and three RECs. The Tripartite initiative was unveiled at an oversubscribed side event on the margins of COP 17 in Durban, South Africa in December 2011.

The initiative has evolved over the years in response to the changing climate change landscape and decisions. It however retains the original pillars of the Comprehensive Framework for COMESA Climate Change 2009-2013 reworked as:

- Supporting MS to effectively participate in the negotiations
- Building the capacity of MS to domesticate global decisions and commitments
- Piloting flagship projects with a focus on climate smart agriculture (CSA)
- Enhancing MS capacity access to sustainable climate financing
- Building the capacity of the Secretariat in climate change

The major achievements of the climate change initiative during the past decade are:

- Accommodation in the PA of key African concerns COMESA articulated in 2009
- Tripartite Climate Change Programme led by COMESA set the stage for the closer collaboration that is now being witnessed on the continent
- Effective partnerships and networks have contributed immensely to the success of the initiative
- COMESA designed CSA pilots being upscaled and replicated
- Mainstreaming of climate change in COMESA processes and programmes and institutional and human capacity development
- COMESA pioneered a Regional Resilience Framework which has been approved by the sector Ministers and preparations for its implementation began
- Focused support has been rendered to MS on CSA, development of national climate change policies, strategies and action plans, review and updating of

NDCs, project development and resource mobilization and capacity building on PA requirements among others

- The initiative has received positive independent reviews at the end of all funding cycles since it began

## COMESA Regional Resilience Framework

The Rockefeller Foundation defines resilience as the ability to bounce back more quickly and effectively after sudden and dramatic shocks and stresses such as cyber-attacks, pandemics, violent climate, civil disturbances and economic blows (J. Rodin, 2014). It was through partnership with the Rockefeller Foundation's 100 Resilient Cities Programme in 2016 that an opportunity to bring resilience into the climate change initiative was identified and put into action.

Development of the Resilience Framework was a key recommendation of a COMESA Regional Resilience Academy that was held in November 2017. It sought to strengthen regional cooperation and resilience building efforts through development and implementation of resilience projects and programmes. It outlined the structural elements of resilience building to guide MS, key stakeholders and partners in the design and implementation of resilience programmes in support of the COMESA Vision and Mission as well as MS' development objectives.

The rationale stems from the fact that the COMESA region is subject to a variety of shocks and stresses that undermine the well-being of the population and threaten the equilibrium of economic, social and ecological systems. Shocks are defined as sudden events including erratic rainfall resulting in drought, flooding and landslides; outbreaks of diseases and pests; seismic events; high food prices and conflicts. Stresses are long-term trends that affect the potential of a given system and increase the vulnerability of actors within it. They include the degradation of the environment, land erosion, deforestation, low and declining agricultural productivity; inadequate access to water, sanitation education and health services; high prevalence of HIV/AIDS; tensions and inter-community violence, weak institutions. Frequently these shocks and stresses can occur simultaneously further compounding the problems. The

resilience approach makes it possible to effectively deal with several hazards simultaneously.

Building resilience requires an integrated approach and a long-term commitment to improving three critical capacities: absorptive, adaptive, and transformative. These three are interconnected, mutually reinforcing, and exist at multiple levels - individual, household, community, national, and ecosystem levels.

*Absorptive capacity* is the ability to minimize exposure to shocks and stresses through preventive measures and coping strategies to recover quickly and avoid permanent negative impacts.

*Adaptive capacity* is the ability to make proactive informed choices of alternative livelihood strategies based on an understanding of changing conditions. It results from livelihoods diversification, asset accumulation, improved social and human capital.

*Transformative capacity* is about governance mechanisms, policies and regulations, infrastructure, community networks, formal and informal social protection mechanisms that are necessary for systemic change to enable more lasting resilience.

The resilience Vision is defined as: '*realizing a fully integrated, internationally competitive regional economic community with high living standards that is sustainable and resilient to climate shocks and stresses.*' This Vision rhymes with and is supported by the aims and objectives of COMESA.

Resilience programming facilitates the paradigm shift from a reactive, unanticipated risks and short-term response focused on meeting immediate needs towards a proactive and deliberate effort of addressing the root causes of vulnerability through a comprehensive package of programmes that are complementary and which builds on the resilience capacities of the households, communities and institutions.

The COMESA Regional Resilience Framework was officially approved by the sector ministers in August 2020 and is set for endorsement by the Policy Organs and Summit. The implementation plan and resource mobilisation strategy are under development. This is such an important development that it has been crosslinked with this Strategy as a key result.

## COMESA Carbon Neutrality Project

In 2018 at the COP 24 in Katowice, Poland, COMESA became one of the 300 signatories across the globe and one of the 15 international organisations to take the Climate Neutral Now Pledge. Climate Neutral Now is a movement led by the UN Climate Change Secretariat that aims to reduce emissions and accelerate the global journey to a climate neutral future. COMESA has set an ambitious target of reaching climate neutrality by December 2024 and is in the process of establishing a Carbon Neutrality implementation plan and resource mobilisation strategy. Carbon Neutrality will be achieved by eliminating, reducing and offsetting unavoidable emissions from the Secretariat's processes and operations.

The Carbon Neutrality project is a key enabler and builds the institutional capacity and resilience of the Secretariat which are critical for the success of the Strategy on Climate Change. It continually raises the awareness and consciousness levels throughout the Secretariat which greatly facilitates sustainable mainstreaming of climate change into the regional integration agenda and programmes of COMESA.

## Climate Proofing the COMESA Medium-Term Strategic Plan 2021-2026

The MTSP 2021-2025 acknowledges and gives due attention to climate change as it impacts the sectors that make up the core business of COMESA's regional integration agenda. This reinforces the rationale for mainstreaming climate change into the programmes, operations and processes of COMESA. It recognises the importance of building the capacity and competence of the Secretariat to deliver effective and efficient support to MS including combating climate change on all fronts.

There are five pillars of the MTSP 2021-2025 that all have climate change objectives and targets as indicated below:

1. **Trade and Market Integration:** measurement of, and reduction of the carbon and environment footprints of COMESA trade; promotion and facilitation of trade in green products and services

2. **Physical Interconnectivity:** green climate resilient infrastructure development; reducing GHG emissions from transport and energy; increased production and trade in clean renewable energy
3. **Productive Integration:** CSA and circular industrial processes; reduction in emissions and waste from production and enhanced access to finance for green investments
4. **Gender and Social Affairs:** women and youth participation in the PA processes; NDCs; enhanced access to climate finance
5. **Effective Secretariat:** capacity to mainstream climate change into all programmes, processes and support to MS; Resilience Framework implementation; attainment of Carbon Neutrality by December 2024 and Accreditation to the Green Climate Fund (GCF)

The MTSP 2021-2025, with these climate change provisions was validated by the MS and awaits formal approval by the Policy Organs in November 2020. It is also complimented by on-going business process re-engineering and restructuring. These developments taken together with the Regional Resilience Framework and Carbon Neutrality Project, set the stage for building a high level of consciousness within the COMESA Secretariat, which is a prerequisite for the success of this Strategy on Climate Change.

## Other Climate Change Frameworks in Africa

### African Union

The purpose of the 2014 Draft Strategy was to provide a framework for integrated and coordinated mechanisms and give strategic direction to MS and other stakeholders in addressing the challenges and opportunities associated with climate change on the continent to improve the livelihoods of the African people and the environment they live in. Africa's priorities are to implement climate change programmes in such a way as to alleviate poverty and attain the SDGs with emphasis on the most vulnerable groups, especially women and children. This Strategy is being updated.

## AUDA/NEPAD

The African Union Development Agency (AUDA) supports the implementation and monitors the progress of the continental priorities of Agenda 2063 and the Agenda 2030 SDGs. It also supports the implementation other continental strategic priorities,

The New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) Climate Change Fund was established in 2014 to offer technical and financial assistance to AU MS, RECs and institutions for programme and project implementation.

## African Risk Capacity

The African Risk Capacity is a specialized agency of the AU established to help African governments improve their capacities to plan, prepare for and respond to extreme weather events and natural disasters, it enables countries to strengthen their DRM systems and access rapid and predictable financing whenever disaster strikes. It also supports participating MS to access state-of-the-art early warning technology, contingency planning, risk pooling and transfer facilities.

## African Development Bank (AfDB)

The AfDB is committed to building climate-resilience through climate friendly strategies and climate proofing investments. Knowledge generation and capacity building form an integral part of the strategy. It acknowledges the limited data and awareness of climate change in the African population and aims to address this through mainstreaming climate change using its financial resource base.

The Africa Climate Change Fund was created in 2014 as a multi-donor trust fund administered by the AfDB to assist African countries access larger amounts of climate finance, mainstream climate change in their development plans, provide capacity building in green growth and pilot innovative adaptation projects.

## African Regional Standards Organisation (ARSO)

ARSO was established by the AU and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) to harmonise African standards and conformity assessment

procedures. ARSO currently has 2 standards that centre around the environment, energy and natural resources; ARSO/THC 09 Environmental Management and ARSO/THC10 Energy and Natural Resources. Of interest is the Eco Mark Africa a recognition system for sustainability standards which is a quality assurance mechanism. This standard can be expanded to include infrastructure, health, food, water, transport, employment, education, agriculture to improve climate resilience, adaptation, mitigation, DRM and emission reduction.

### [Inter-Governmental Authority on Development \(IGAD\)](#)

IGAD comprises of eight countries in the Horn and east Africa that are some of the most vulnerable nations in the world to climate variability and change especially drought. IGAD's Climate Change Strategy focuses on sustainable resource management. Its core pillars include DRM, promotion of low carbon and climate resilient development and food security. To support improved DRM, IGAD set up the IGAD Climate Prediction and Application Centre (ICPAC), a set of capacity building programs at the sub-regional and national level providing climate information, prediction products and services, early warning and related applications. Additionally, the IGAD Drought Disaster Resilience and Sustainability Initiative (IDDRSI) was created as a support to address the effects of drought and related shocks in a sustainable and holistic manner.

### [Southern African Development Community \(SADC\)](#)

The SADC strategy aims to develop a common climate change and development agenda, supported by science and technology. Adaptation remains a top priority for SADC while voluntary mitigation actions that promote regional integration and socio-economic development are encouraged. SADC aims to have a cross-sectoral single climate change strategy, around the vision and core values of SADC with all sectors participating and accountable.

### [East African Community \(EAC\)](#)

The EAC Climate Change Policy is founded on three key pillars: adaptation, mitigation and research. These are supported by technology development and transfer, finance,

education, training, public awareness, information and knowledge management. Gender considerations are given adequate attention in the Policy.

The Policy takes cognizance of the existing national sectoral policies and strategies in environment, water, land, forestry, energy, transport, agriculture, livestock, fisheries, health, DRM and gender among others. To compliment the Policy, the East African Legislative Assembly (EALA) passed the regional climate change bill that has been domesticated into the laws of its partner states – a first on the continent.

### **Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS)**

The ECCAS Strategy aims to strike a balance between DRR and sustainable development. The focus areas are sustainable use and management of ecosystems; food security; integration of DRR into the health sector; protecting and strengthening of public facilities and physical infrastructure particularly schools, clinics, hospitals, water and power generation, communications and transport.

### **Africa-Focused UN Agencies**

In the UN, Africa is treated as a region. Some of the agencies have country offices in Africa while others also have Africa Regional Offices that collaborate and support the work of the AU, RECs and MS. They are important sources of capacity, technical expertise and partnerships through which Africa can have access to the vast knowledge, resource and experience base of the entire UN system. Africa should take full advantage of the support and services offered by these agencies. The key activities of the agencies that are most relevant to the COMESA Strategy Climate Change are listed below:

### **UNECA/Africa Climate Policy Centre (ACPC)**

The ACPC is a hub for knowledge generation on climate change in Africa. It addresses the need for improved climate information and strengthening its use for decision making. It is an integral part of the Climate for Development in Africa (ClimDev-Africa) programme, which is a joint initiative of the AU, UNECA and the AfDB. The ACPC's

work is in three broad areas of knowledge generation, advocacy and advisory services to strengthen African countries' capacities in global climate governance, developing integrated climate policy frameworks, mainstreaming climate change and ensuring a solid foundation of applied science and assessment of vulnerability, risks and impacts.

### United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

UNEP coordinates the UN's environmental activities by supporting developing countries in implementing environmentally sound policies and practices. It hosts the AMCEN Secretariat whose mandate is to spearhead environmental protection by providing continent-wide leadership, approving common positions to guide African negotiators in international dialogue and reviewing and monitoring environmental programmes.

### United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

The Africa Adaptation Programme was established in 2008 by the UNDP in partnership with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the World Food Programme (WFP) to address climate change on the continent through climate resilient policy development, innovative financing, knowledge generation and sharing and enhanced adaptation.

### Shortcomings of Current Interventions

The major shortcoming of the current interventions in ESA and indeed the rest of the African continent is that there has been little harmonisation and streamlining of climate change approaches and responses. The Tripartite Programme on Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation in ESA attempted to bridge this gap as COMESA MS also belong to other RECs hence the need for streamlining strategies and approaches.

Another traditional African development shortcoming is that climate change responses are largely donor funded on project basis and the resources availed are often inadequate to support the priority needs of all MS.

The management of environmental information is a relatively recent activity in the COMESA region thus information gaps exist. In order to monitor progress of interventions as well as to establish baselines and realistic targets, useful information must be readily accessible.

As climate change unfolds, experiences in handling resulting disasters accumulate. It is evident that the COMESA MS, as is the case in much of Africa, are ill-prepared and have inadequate resources to competently and holistically address the issues. As a result, much of government and development partner efforts and resources are spent on relief efforts. Some of the damaged infrastructure remains unrepaired years after the disasters. The development gap between African countries and most of the rest of the world is sadly widening.

Continuation and intensification of unsustainable practices is leading to deforestation, land degradation, habitat and biodiversity loss in many locales of the region. The complex relationships between climate change impacts and other natural hazards such as pandemics, pest and disease outbreaks and man-made conflicts are not fully understood thereby compounding losses and damages.

Many climate change policies, strategies, plans, resources, even regulations and legislations abound in MS, RECs and AU. It is the lack of implementation and enforcement that is often the stumbling block for meaningful progress. Poor implementation is caused by many factors other than limited financial and human resources.

## **PART IV: THE COMESA STRATEGY ON CLIMATE CHANGE**

The development of this Strategy was arrived at by reviewing the Comprehensive Framework for COMESA's Climate Change Initiative: 2009 - 2013, the Africa Climate Change Strategy, the PA, the UN SDGs Agenda 2030, the AU Agenda 2063, Sendai Framework on DRR, national and regional climate change frameworks. Consultations with selected stakeholders in MS, other RECs, academia, partners and civil society generated inputs that gave a holistic and fresh approach to the Strategy.

The Strategy is intended for the COMESA Secretariat, its organs and agencies, MS departments responsible for climate change. It also provides guidance for common approaches for other regional and national climate change strategies and programmes of action. NGOs, CSOs, partners and the private sector, are called upon to align their climate change strategies and programmes with the COMESA Strategy on Climate Change for coherence of climate action in the region as well as at the African continental level.

The Strategy is cast within the spirit of the COMESA Treaty, Agenda 2063, the PA and is anchored on the voluntary commitments, baselines and targets made by the countries in their NDCs. Pooling of these commitments gives the basis for COMESA regional baselines, targets and indicators for this regional Strategy.

### **SWOT Analysis**

It is helpful at this stage to construct a SWOT analysis table to clarify and synthesise what needs to be intensified, added, adjusted or avoided going forward.

**Table 1 SWOT Analysis**

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Strengths</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youthful and adaptable population</li> <li>• Primordial survival instinct and innate resilience of Africans</li> <li>• Pan African/Ubuntu spirit</li> <li>• Well established programmes</li> <li>• Wide partnerships and networks</li> <li>• Largest natural capital base; biodiversity</li> <li>• The best weather in the world</li> <li>• Well positioned and readily accessible region</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Weaknesses</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Small, narrow unsustainable funding base</li> <li>• Donor dependence can dampen enterprise</li> <li>• Low awareness and consciousness levels</li> <li>• Reactive approach to dealing with challenges</li> <li>• Weaker intra-African bonds than within other groupings on climate change</li> <li>• Low intra-African trade</li> <li>• Weak economic ties can lead to balkanization</li> <li>• Low development index</li> <li>• Complex governance</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Opportunities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Africans driving their own development</li> <li>• Making climate change everyone's business</li> <li>• Building stronger Pan African collaboration including the diaspora</li> <li>• Innovating sustainable green jobs and wealth while acting on climate change</li> <li>• Net zero emission growth and development</li> <li>• Unlocking vast mitigation, renewable energy (RE) potential and natural resources</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Threats</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Globalisation dynamics beyond Africa's control</li> <li>• Scramble for Africa's resources, RE capacity and carbon storage potential</li> <li>• Dumping of decommissioned high emission equipment, machinery, vehicles and wastes</li> <li>• Bulge of unemployed and restless African youth</li> <li>• Widening development gap begets brain and capacity drain from the region</li> </ul>

**Rationale for the COMESA Strategy on Climate Change**

The Rationale for this Strategy is built on the SWOT analysis and focuses efforts towards attaining the COMESA Vision as articulated in the Treaty despite the effects of climate change. It simultaneously contributes to, and supports the implementation of the PA, SDGs, Sendai Framework on Disaster Risk Reduction and Agenda 2063.

The Strategy uses the strengths to leverage the attractiveness of the opportunities the region offers and uses this to acquire the capability to overcome the weaknesses, reduce or neutralise the threats from climate change in order for the region and its MS to attain the goals they set for themselves and drive themselves to ever higher ambitions with the view to close the development gap with the rest of the world.

It is recognised that communities and countries are doing the best they can under the prevailing circumstances, available resources and capacity to adapt to and mitigate

the effects of climate change. If they are supported by a more supportive and enabling environment, capacitated and resourced, they will be better able to bring about the necessary transformation to quickly, effectively and sustainably attain the goals as stated above.

The rationale of this Strategy is based on the principle that much more efficiency and effectiveness can be achieved if all the well-meaning efforts to combat climate change in the region are better coordinated, harmonised and aligned. The Strategy promotes all-inclusive approaches that bring together and involve all stakeholders including the youth, women, the diaspora, business, civil society and other non-state actors. It promotes all-round competence building, innovation and entrepreneurship and posits new approaches to education and training and financing climate action in a logical way for the achievement of the goals.

### Objectives of the COMESA Strategy on Climate Change

The Overall Objective of the COMESA Strategy for Climate Change is the *'achievement of the COMESA Vision by building the resilience of the region and MS to climate change.'*

The Specific Objectives are the attainment of SDG 13: *'take urgent action to combat climate change'* and to contribute to the PA goal through harmonised adaptation and mitigation responses to climate change in ESA.

The COMESA Strategy on Climate Change has three broad results discussed below:

#### Result 1: Competent Institutions

At the outset, it is critical to determine the institutional arrangements, structures and capacities required for successfully driving the Strategy to meet the intended results and objectives. The actions proposed focus on addressing the threats the region faces and enhancing the resilience of communities through the programmes and operations of COMESA.

## Activity 1.1: Establish and Strengthen Institutional Structures

The challenges of weak institutions and resource limitations need to be decisively dealt with if COMESA and its MS are to effectively tackle climate change. The COMESA Treaty, read together with Agenda 2063, provides the ideology and framework within which these limitations can be addressed by calling on the collective strength of a united Africa and its diaspora.

Since combating climate change is called for in the COMESA Treaty and is mainstreamed into the MTSP 2021-2025, it is important to have technical structures within the Secretariat responsible for planning, organising, coordinating, monitoring and evaluation of the climate change activities in the programmes that COMESA implements. Climate change will be reported on at the sectoral level and at the programme level through the relevant technical and oversight ministerial committees. It is the responsibility of these technical structures to make special reports, organize dialogues and other high-level events at the Council of Ministers and Summit of Heads of State and Government.

Due to the specialised nature of climate change with its demands for specific scientific, social, economic, financial and environmental expertise covering the programmes of COMESA, there is need for the creation, development, management and deployment of this vital database.

The COMESA Climate Change Unit is well established at the national, regional continental and global levels and thus is a good nucleus for this institutional capacity. However, the Unit has the fatal weakness of being a time-bound donor-funded project management unit that implements activities for which resources have been mobilized. This also explains why some thematic areas of the Comprehensive Framework for COMESA Climate Change have not been adequately tackled especially early action projects in sustainable energy, ecosystems, biodiversity, sustainable trade and DRM.

National structures like government ministries, parliaments, agencies, financial institutions, local government, community, CSOs and business all need to work in unison and within the regional and continental strategies. Likewise, they need to set

up and capacitate structures that will drive their national agenda and provide linkages to the regional programmes implemented by COMESA.

To create maximum synergy and increase momentum, the COMESA Secretariat is called upon to synthesize and develop regional targets from the national commitments made in the NDCs. Best practices will be identified for use as benchmarks to propel the region to ever higher levels of ambition while moving in unison. The Secretariat will also lead in the formulation, coordination and implementation of regional/cross border initiatives in close collaboration with MS and other partners.

### Activity 1.2: Streamlined Continental, Regional and National Strategies

As observed in the section on shortcomings of current measures, there is little harmonisation of climate change approaches and responses. COMESA MS also belong to other RECs hence implementation may be hampered if the strategies are not streamlined or harmonized.

While all countries submitted their NDCs as required after ratifying the PA, it is evident that some MS did not consult adequately or strategise on harmonizing their NDCs as was the case in the EU that submitted the only regional NDC to the UNFCCC. As such, no two NDCs are similar making harmonisation and coordination of implementation a challenge. Synthesis and development of regional targets and indicators from the NDCs and revised as MS review and update them will define the regional programme that the MS should aim to converge upon.

### Coordination

As noted, many of the climate change frameworks on the continent are being revised and updated. The general procedure is that consultations are made with key stakeholders such as the AUC, continental agencies, RECs, MS, non-state actors and partners. The draft framework is then developed and subjected to a series of reviews before final validation and formal approval.

It is also an established good practice that these new frameworks review and compare the instruments of others in the same geographical location and identify opportunities for creating synergy and joint implementation.

Another emerging key principle is the participation of RECs and continental entities in each other's development and validation of the frameworks being revised and updated.

A structured coordination arrangement for the regional and national perspectives needs to be institutionalized and operationalised. There is already experience in inter-regional coordination between COMESA and other RECs in ESA through the Tripartite Climate Change Programme that brought together COMESA, EAC and SADC and three donors. This coordination also applies to other programmes such as trade, infrastructure, energy, governance, peace and security. COMESA is a member of the AU-RECs coordination platform and a key stakeholder in other continental initiatives.

The coordination needed is specific to the actions of this Strategy to ensure compatible approaches and joint actions. Already the AUC organizes coordination meetings on climate change, DRR, sustainable forest management, biodiversity, blue and circular economies to ensure harmony between continental and regional programmes. COMESA and the other RECs also organize coordination meetings on their climate change actions. Coordination meetings are also organised for the Africa, Caribbean Pacific Group of States to come up with a common position on climate change.

## Partnerships

There is a proliferation of well-intentioned but often weakly coordinated efforts with many stakeholders working independently of each other. Bringing together the combined expertise and resources of the different stakeholders in pursuit of a unified programme brings about greater synergy and accelerates the achievement of results for less overall cost and more sustainably.

An opportunity thus exists, through this Strategy, to fortify and enhance the robustness of climate action in the region by integrating the approaches of different stakeholders

into a seamless regional Strategy in conformity with the decisions of COMESA MS that the bloc should join others on the continent and speak with one voice and work together in combating climate change and building resilience.

### Joint implementation

This is an increasingly preferred means of providing support to MS by different entities supporting a common programme. This has the advantage of reducing the overall costs, bringing a wide variety of expertise and resources with each entity focusing on the areas they are best suited to lead in.

A lot of harmonisation of approaches is done during the preparatory and planning stages and during the regular partner coordination meetings to smooth things out and address any challenges. As the partners have different sources and timescales of funding, the support continues even when some funding ends making this a more sustainable approach which will be used wherever feasible.

### Activity 1.3 Focused Capacity Building

Due to the ever-evolving nature of climate change and uncertainties surrounding it, continuous capacity building at the institutional and individual levels is imperative. This demands unremitting awareness raising, needs assessments, focused professional training, knowledge and information sharing and management. There is a growing pool of local and regional institutions and specialists that can provide the services required in this regard. Deliberate policies to make use of local services and experts stimulates further capacity building to meet the evolving needs. This has the added advantage of increasing the circulation of resources leading to dynamic self-propelling development and resilience building capability within the region.

### Activity 1.4: Inclusive Planning, Design and Implementation

Resolution of climate change demands collective participation of everyone and partnerships with MS, RECs, scientific and business communities and civil society. It is therefore essential that the planning and design phases are carried out with the full,

prior informed, knowledge and active participation of all stakeholders. Advocacy, communication and visibility should be factored into the design of the interventions so that everyone can play their role.

Effective partnerships including with the media, arts and culture, sports, public and private champions, exhibitions, summits, awards and recognitions are essential to raise the level of awareness and consciousness to stimulate and entrench broad-based participation.

Partnerships have the added advantage of pooling resources and capacities to achieve agreed goals. Participatory planning with the stakeholders and partners enables each to identify and focus on their core mandate areas where they are best placed to more effectively and efficiently support implementation. Areas with no takers define the targets for resource mobilization and further capacity development.

#### Activity 1.5: Enhancing Technology Transfer

There is a lot of knowledge, technology and capacity that MS can adopt and adapt from beyond their boundaries for quick and effective responses to climate change. However, for sustainability, efficiency and job creation, MS must develop their own dynamic technological capability that can better interact with, adopt and localize technologies for adaptation, mitigation, low/zero emission growth and development.

It is often said that African solutions work best for solving African problems. Indigenous knowledge and practices that had been relegated to the sidelines need to be revived and backed by science as lasting foundations of this technological capability. The indigenous knowledge must be documented and factored into educational systems, so that it is never lost.

Researching for this Strategy has showed that information and statistics on climate change in the COMESA bloc are not always readily available or accessible. Data and information capacity are critical for effective technology transfer. COMESA therefore needs to build the capacity to collect appropriate statistics with which to create climate

change information portals and databases. Additionally, the educational system must be re-focused so it raises more climate change scientists, technologists and other specialists for effectively fighting the crisis and ensure the technological capability needed for sustainable development of the region and its people.

#### Activity 1.6 Advocacy and Communications Capacity

The impacts, risks, implications and opportunities arising as a result of climate change must be synthesized and effectively communicated to those that need the information via appropriate sharing platforms using all types of media.

The enormity and complexity of what needs to be done demands high visibility and advocacy through a well thought, researched and resourced communication strategy and action plan. It goes beyond what the climate change initiative has been able to do as a project this far as it touches on all the programmes and processes of COMESA and hence requires focused institutional arrangements and capacity building.

#### Activity 1.7: Refocusing Education and Training

It has been put forward that climate change is robbing the future of the children and youth of today who will live during the predicted dire consequences of climate change. It is proposed to prepare these children and youth to better understand and cope with the coming challenges by teaching them about these issues and capacitating them to come up with solutions throughout their education. The education system thus needs to be re-focused so that it serves these evolving needs to effectively tackle this existential threat and achieve the COMESA Vision and the goals of the PA.

Factoring the issues discussed in this Strategy into the educational systems is a sure way to attain the high levels of awareness and consciousness required. This should be coupled with strong and sustained public campaigns and mainstreaming into all programmes of governments. Gender equity, women and youth empowerment should also be introduced early and sustained throughout the education system.

If done diligently, it can safely be said that more than 60% of the population will have gone through this new educational system within a generation thereby creating a large pool of young cadres for tackling these challenges and unlocking the opportunities more effectively and with a higher assurance of success.

A start was made in the COMESA climate change programme where sensitisation, implementation of CSA and agro-ecology practices were piloted into educational systems in a few countries. The pilots were greatly successful that additional funding was provided to upscale and replicate them in the current project.

## **Result 2: Effective Support to Member States**

### **Activity 2.1: Build Capacity to Comply with the PA**

The implementation phase of the PA started in 2020 with the submission of revised or updated NDCs. A global GHG stocktake is planned for 2023. The first Biennial Transparency Reports (BTR) using the ETF are due by 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024 for developing countries. Countries are expected to update and increase their ambitions every 5 years from 2025.

The COMESA Secretariat and its agencies are mandated to support MS in complying with the requirements of international agreements and protocols they are party to.

The support to be provided in this regard is through pre- and post-COP consultations, general and focused training, provision of specialised expert services on the PA.

### **Activity 2.2: Build NDC Implementation Capacity**

The current climate change programme has established a strong base in supporting the MS in various aspects of their NDCs ranging from revision and prioritization, capacity to develop and implement projects and resource mobilisation among others.

The support is given in the form of regional dialogues, training and capacity building, provision of short-term expertise, developing legislation among others. The support can also be provided as a result of a direct request to the Secretariat.

### Activity 2.3: Support the Unified African Position

A united Africa at the global table is a well proven strategy for the collective to get advantageous outcomes in negotiations than each country can obtain on its own. This is how the Africa, LDCs, AGN, small island developing states and other groupings of weaker entities managed to get favourable provisions in the PA. Arriving at the global agreement was the relatively easy part. The implementation of the PA and realising the global temperature goal is a lot more challenging for all Parties. This means greater pressure on Africa and hence the need for greater African unity. Working together generates synergy and economies of scale while friendly competition increases the pace of progress.

A unified African position at the UNFCCC must be derived from a synthesis of the commitments made in the updated NDCs to be submitted by the end of 2020. However, as implementation progresses, conditions change, countries update and increase the ambition of their NDCs, meaning that the position should be adjusted accordingly so that MS always have their best foot forward. Not only should this position guide the negotiations, it must be internalised by the MS to guide the climate actions by all partners down to the individual. The position must be supported by robust research and verified facts that can withstand international scrutiny.

### Activity 2.4: Build Resilience

Building resilience of livelihoods, food, water, sanitation and energy supplies, infrastructure and settlements to the anticipated impacts of climate change is a prerequisite to the developments necessary to attain the COMESA Vision. Otherwise scarce resources will continually be diverted to deal with the recurring disasters, repairing damaged infrastructure and settlements each time disaster strikes. If resilience is not built, many of the poor in ESA will be trapped in a vicious cycle of poverty and suffering. Resilience strategies and action plans have been developed by

COMESA, some countries and cities and other stakeholders. As with climate change and DRR strategies, an integrated continental resilience strategy is recommended to guide regional, national and other stakeholders in their resilience building efforts.

The Secretariat is already developing the implementation plan and resource mobilisation strategy for the Resilience Framework.

As communities grow more adept at managing disruptions and more skilled at resilience building, they become better able to take advantage of new economic and social opportunities to build capacity to recover after catastrophes and grow stronger in times of relative calm such that the impact of successive shocks is reduced.

In the COMESA Treaty, the MS undertook to establish a Regional Meteorological Centre to monitor the atmosphere and climatic changes. This has not yet happened.

### **Result 3: Enhanced Access to Finance**

Much of the regional and national climate change efforts are often wholly donor funded. This is not sustainable and is not in keeping with the core principle of the COMESA Treaty on self-reliance and the Agenda 2063 Declaration on Africa financing its own climate smart development.

Facilitating access to finance from different sources, in particular public finance, is critical as a means of closing the financing gap. The current estimate of the finance gap for implementing the full scope of African NDCs is US\$3 trillion. African countries have already contributed an estimated 20 per cent of the annual cost of adaptation from their own budgets. Such contributions have an impact on the availability of resources for other sectors nationally, such as education and health, as well as on overall poverty reduction (Barbara Creecy (2020) AMCEN President).

This financing gap can only be bridged if concerted efforts are made to think out of the box and come up with innovative ways to ensure additional financial flows to fully implement the NDCs.

### Activity 3.1: Climate Sensitive Public Sector Financing

Government is the largest spender in COMESA countries. It therefore follows that mainstreaming climate change into all national budget lines will have the largest impact on climate action. Public investment mobilization and management must be climate sensitive and promote resilience. The ministries of Finance and Planning play a pivotal role in this and hence need to be brought on board using the convening mandate of COMESA to table issues before Ministers and Heads of State.

The commitments made in the NDCs can be turned into concrete actions if governments deliberately allocate budgetary resources into climate actions, re-direct subsidies and offer incentives to stimulate mitigation and low carbon development. At the same time, consideration should be given to extending the carbon or emissions tax base to finance green investments. The 'polluter pays' principle enshrined in the COMESA Treaty should be extended and applied especially to the extraction and processing of wasting assets like minerals and fossil fuels including renewable GHG emitting energy sources such as wood and biomass.

### Activity 3.2: Unlocking Private Capital

The private sector is the next biggest spender. Many entrepreneurs are into lucrative green businesses for profit and not as climate change or NDC priority interventions. Measuring and quantifying the impacts of these efforts is a major step towards achieving the mitigation targets of the NDCs. Policies, incentives and other enablers are required to bring about a self-sustaining green/circular economy, sustainable wealth creation and jobs.

Government budgets and donor provided resources have finite limits. However, there are virtually no limits for profit-seeking private capital. Thus, opening new and more profit opportunities for private capital by addressing climate change opens the doors to this huge resource base. A strong entrepreneurial class discussed earlier, is the best link and partner for international capital to make this happen.

There are more opportunities for private sector (including micro, small and medium sized enterprises) engagement and participation in mitigation than in adaptation. Investments in renewable energy, clean green technologies, energy efficiency, waste management, circular production all make business and economic sense. Policies need to be developed and aligned to facilitate this. Incentives and subsidies should be shifted to get more private sector participation. This way, the private sector becomes a key party to the achievement of the mitigation component of the NDCs whilst earning enhanced incomes and creating green and sustainable jobs.

The regional and continental trade and investment facilitation instruments (COMESA Free Trade Area, Customs and Monetary Unions) should support the transformation into the private sector of the future; mainstream climate change, promote and give more incentives for production and trade in environmentally friendly goods, services and technologies; monitor and manage emissions associated with the value chains.

### Activity 3.3: Diversifying Existing Financial Services

The existing development and investment financial institutions have been slow to react in mobilizing and channeling financial resources into climate actions. They need to give higher priority to projects that also build resilience and contribute to the attainment of the country's NDC. Involvement and partnership with the government/public sector to enact conducive policies and provide incentives is necessary for this shift to happen.

Weather indexed micro-insurance as well as micro-finance services need to be rolled out to cover more vulnerable people and assist them to begin the recovery process from climate change induced loss and damage as opposed to waiting for government or relief agencies. Governments should support this development by enacting a more enabling environment and offering incentives for small players to partner with the large multinational conglomerates.

COMESA, its agencies and other stakeholders should factor advocacy, capacity building and facilitation of this in the support they render to the countries to encourage

the changes required in addition to organizing dedicated consultative and exchange sessions for key enablers of the financial services sector.

#### Activity 3.4: Incentivizing the Diaspora

Diaspora remittances now exceed foreign direct investment and official development assistance put together in many COMESA countries.

Governments must enact appropriate policies and mechanisms to incentivize African financial institutions to set up diaspora special purpose vehicles to mobilize and channel diaspora resources into high profile, high impact green projects. Funding for the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam is a good example for mobilizing and rallying the support and active engagement of nationals in the country and the diaspora.

#### Activity 3.5: Unlocking the Mitigation Potential

While adaptation unquestionably and rightly remains the top priority for the COMESA bloc, there is a huge mitigation capacity in the region's lands, oceans, lakes, forests, agricultural systems, land use and renewable energy among others. A significant opportunity also exists to decarbonise MS development by adopting clean, low emission technologies. This combined mitigation potential, if fully deployed, can launch COMESA into a lead position in low carbon and ultimately, net zero emission growth and development. Building on the region's historically low emissions, MS already have a head start in the low carbon race and can earn significant additional income from green exports, renewable energy and carbon trade.

Africa is historically and currently is the least emitter of GHGs. Additionally, most MS have much less un-amortized investments in heavy polluting industries using outdated technologies. This situation obtains at a time of increased availability, competitiveness and affordability of alternative cleaner and greener technologies, especially in renewable energy, waste recycling, circular economies, high ICT penetration and the 'Internet of Things' that MS should embrace for their low emission growth and development. The region has unique advantages to play an important role in the fast-

evolving technology for producing and exporting green hydrogen which is fast becoming the fuel of the future because of its zero emissions and universal applicability. Hybrid energy systems combining two or more of the renewable energy sources – hydro, solar, wind, geothermal, wave, hydrogen and biomass are increasingly popular as they offer sustainability, reliability and consistency of supplies. This is a boat that COMESA should not miss.

Not only can COMESA MS quickly attain zero emission development, massive opportunities also exist to export renewable energy beyond the continent. Green hydrogen produced from clean renewable electricity and water electrolysis is a perfect replacement for fossil fuels. The COMESA region has the advantage of vast water, solar and other renewable energy sources that can be deployed and propel the region to be a global leader in the production and export of this precious fuel of the future and contribute to reducing global emissions.

International voluntary trading in carbon credits is provided for under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement on Market Mechanisms.

MS are encouraged to set up their own carbon neutrality targets from which the regional and continental target can be derived and factored into the African position. This is how the EU and other developed countries set the year 2050 as the target date for attaining net zero emissions status. The COMESA Secretariat has set December 2024 as its carbon neutral target date.

### Activity 3.6: Payment for Ecosystem Services

Much has been extracted from the ecosystem in the COMESA region for centuries without putting much back to preserve and grow this natural capital. The ecosystem is heavily depleted in some areas that the returns from it are diminishing accelerating further depletion in a vicious downward spiral. This trend must be reversed. Placing the correct value on the services the ecosystem provides and those benefiting from it paying the right price will go a long way towards generating the resources with which

to restore the ecosystems. This is market-based conservation to ensure continuous and sustainable flow of ecosystem benefits.

The concept of payment for services is well established in many countries that collect road toll fees and tax vehicle emissions. These schemes must be extended to ecosystem services and all emitters. Once again, government and all stakeholder involvement and partnership is necessary for success. COMESA and its agencies as well as other stakeholders should develop and implement pilot proof of concept schemes in this regard.

### Activity 3.7: Enhancing Access to Climate Finance

Over the years, several global, international, continental, regional, national and private funds have been set up to support adaptation and mitigation actions especially in developing countries. The experience of MS in accessing these funds has not been optimal as they are yet to reach levels that make material difference in the lives of the vulnerable.

The major reason for this slow progress can be summed up as a weak capacity to develop and implement projects that meet the requirements for accessing the funding. The fact that other regions of the world are accessing significant amounts from these same funds points to an acute need for boosting the capacity of COMESA MS in this area.

As with innovation and entrepreneurship, integrating project management and climate finance into the education and training systems in the region and providing support and incentives will produce enough experts in a short period of time to plug this gap.

The COMESA Secretariat has set its sights on the GCF accreditation which, once attained, would enable it to better support the MS as well as the development and implementation of regional projects.

## CONCLUSION

This Strategy gives the key issues, priorities and suggested actions to effectively tackling climate change in the COMESA region. In line with the PA, this Strategy is anchored on supporting the MS to attain the commitments that they made and the targets they set for themselves. The Strategy is addressed to the COMESA Secretariat, its agencies, MS, other stakeholders and the private sector.

The strategy is focused on five results which, if fully attained will place the region on a path to rapid sustainable development and prosperity and ultimately the fulfillment of the COMESA Vision, Agenda 2063 and the SDGs.

It is observed that while adaptation is the top priority for ESA countries, the Strategy recognises the important role that the bloc can play in mitigating climate change at the global level and earn significant income in the process.

Self-reliance and all stakeholder engagement and involvement is the cornerstone of success of the Strategy which is drafted in the spirit of the COMESA and African continental visions that call for Africa to generate its own dynamic scientific and technological capability, innovate new, predictable and sustainable sources of funding for its response to climate change.

For an effective and holistic response to climate change, the disproportionate impacts of climate change on youth and gender need to be adequately addressed. The youth hold a special position as it is their future at stake as they will continue to be the majority in the region for the foreseeable future. Instruction of the youth about the crucial importance of environmental sustainability, innovation and entrepreneurship, starting as early as possible and sustained throughout their education and training is imperative for the success of this Strategy. Within a generation, more than half the population will have gone through this conscientization process and hence better able to tackle the challenges ahead.

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## LOGICAL FRAMEWORK

INTERVENTION	INDICATORS	TARGET	SOURCES	ASSUMPTIONS
<b>Vision:</b> A prosperous, climate resilient COMESA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rising prosperity indices</li> <li>• Political stability, peace and security indices</li> </ul>	MTSP Targets	CS and country reports	Visionary leadership committed to achieve MTSP goals
<b>Mission:</b> To mitigate the impacts of climate change on the attainment of the COMESA goal		MS harmonise strategies	CS and MS Reports	MS committed to COMESA Vision
<b>Overall Objective:</b> Achievement of the COMESA vision by building the resilience of the region to the impacts of climate change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increasing regional integration indices</li> </ul>	% Reduction in loss and damages from cc impacts	MS reports	MS commitment and conducive conditions
<p><b>Specific Objectives:</b></p> <p><b>SO1:</b> Attainment of SDG 13 "Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts"</p> <p><b>SO2:</b> Attainment of PA goal of less than 2°C global temp rise by 2100</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Resources mobilised and deployed for climate action</li> <li>• Number of countries meeting their NDC Targets</li> </ul>	CC integrated into NDPs of all MS	ETF reports by the MS	Developed countries honour their commitment to mobilise \$100bn annually by 2020
<p><b>Result 1:</b> Competent Institutions</p> <p><b>Activity 1.1:</b> Establish and strengthen institutional structures</p> <p><b>Activity 1.2:</b> Streamlined continental, regional and national strategies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No of functional national and regional structures</li> <li>• Increase in programme achievement</li> <li>• Increase in intervention value for money indices</li> </ul>	CS and all MS	CS and MS reports	CS and MS streamline strategies, collaborate and share

<p><b>Activity 1.3:</b> Focused Capacity Building</p> <p><b>Activity 1.4:</b> Inclusive Planning, Design and Implementation</p> <p><b>Activity 1.5:</b> Enhancing Technology Transfer</p> <p><b>Activity 1.6:</b> Advocacy and Communications capacity</p> <p><b>Activity 1.7:</b> Refocusing Education and Training</p>				
<p><b>Result 2:</b> Effective support to MS</p> <p><b>Activity 2.1:</b> Build Capacity to Comply with the PA</p> <p><b>Activity 2.2:</b> Build NDC Implementation capacity</p> <p><b>Activity 2.3:</b> Support the Unified African Position</p> <p><b>Activity 2.4:</b> Build Resilience</p>	<p>No of MS supported</p> <p>No of actions implemented in MS</p> <p>No of papers on the African position</p> <p>No of MS with Resilience Strategies</p>	<p>All MS supported in areas of need</p>	<p>CS and MS reports</p>	<p>CS can mobilise resources with which to support MS</p>
<p><b>Result 3:</b> Enhanced Access to Financing</p> <p><b>Activity 3.1:</b> Climate sensitive public sector financing</p> <p><b>Activity 3.2:</b> Unlocking Private Capital</p> <p><b>Activity 3.3:</b> Diversifying Existing Financial Services</p> <p><b>Activity 3.4:</b> Incentivizing the Diaspora</p> <p><b>Activity 3.5:</b> Unlocking the Mitigation Potential</p> <p><b>Activity 3.6:</b> Payment for Ecosystem Services</p> <p><b>Activity 3.7:</b> Enhancing Access to Climate Finance</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of income streams in use</li> <li>• Resources mobilised by CS and MS</li> </ul>	<p>MS fully fund the non-conditional NDCs by agreed date</p>	<p>MS reports</p>	<p>MS deploy resources as planned</p>