

AFRICA 2030

**STRENGTHENING THE CAPACITY OF AFRICAN COUNTRIES TO
HANDLE THE CHALLENGES OF A CHANGING ENVIRONMENT**

5TH AFRICAN SYMPOSIUM ON CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION

Banjul, The Gambia

1-3 March 2023





AFRICA 2030- STRENGTHENING THE CAPACITY OF AFRICAN COUNTRIES TO HANDLE THE CHALLENGES OF A CHANGING ENVIRONMENT

THE 5th AFRICAN SYMPOSIUM ON CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION

Banjul, The Gambia, 1st-3rd March 2023

It is widely known that Africa is one of the most vulnerable continents to climate change. As the Sixth Assessment Report (AR6) produced by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has shown, climate change is expected to have widespread impacts on African societies, and Africans' interaction with the natural environment. There are also signs that the impacts of climate change are already being felt, not only in terms of increases in temperature but also in respect of agriculture (with lower crop yields) and the availability of water resources, among others. The links between climate change and the incidence of diseases -such as malaria- are also becoming clearer.

The above state of affairs illustrates the need for a better understanding of how climate change affects African countries, and for the identification of processes, methods and tools which may help African nations to adapt. There is also a perceived need to showcase successful examples of how to cope with the social, economic and political problems posed by climate change in Africa. In this context, African universities have a key role to play, as centres of research and teaching, and as key drivers of innovation.

It is against this background that the “**5th SYMPOSIUM ON CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION IN AFRICA**” is being organised by the Research and Transfer Centre “Sustainable Development and Climate Change Management” of the Hamburg University of Applied Sciences (Germany), the International Climate Change Information and Research Programme (ICCIRP), Manchester Metropolitan University (UK), and the University of The Gambia, in cooperation with the West African Science Service Centre on Climate Change and Adapted Land Use (WASCAL) and other partners.

Under the title “**THE CONTRIBUTION OF AFRICAN UNIVERSITIES TO CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION AND ADAPTATION**”, the event will discuss the means via which African universities may support the resilience capacity of African countries. It will serve the purpose of showcasing experiences from research, field projects and best practice in climate change adaptation in African universities, which may be replicated or upscaled in the continent. The Symposium will be a truly interdisciplinary event, organised in the framework of the **2030 UN Agenda for Sustainable Development**, and **Agenda 2036 of the African Union**, mobilising African and non-African scholars undertaking research and/or executing climate change projects in the African continent.



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AIMS

Consistent with the need for more cross-sectoral interactions among the various stakeholders working in the field of climate change adaptation in the African continent, the aims of the Symposium are as follows:

- I. to provide research institutions and universities from Africa and those working in Africa with an opportunity to display and present their works in the field of climate change mitigation and adaptation;
- II. to foster the exchange of information, ideas and experiences acquired in the execution of climate change projects, especially successful initiatives and good practice across the African continent;
- III. to discuss methodological approaches and experiences deriving from case studies and projects, which aim to show how climate change mitigation and adaptation may be implemented in practice;
- IV. to network the participants and provide a platform so they can explore possibilities for cooperation.

Last but not least, a further aim of the event will be to document and disseminate the wealth of experiences available today. To this purpose, papers presented at the event, and which have passed peer-review, will be published in the book **“The contribution of universities to climate change mitigation and adaptation”**. This will be a further volume of the award-winning book series “Climate Change Management” published by Springer, which since its creation in 2008 has become the world’s leading book series on climate change management. The decision of the editors as to which papers may be selected and undergo peer review for the book and for the special issue, is final. The book will follow the success of the **“African Handbook of Climate Change Adaptation”**, an open access publication to which over 200 African experts have contributed to, and which has had in excess of 100.000 downloads to date: <https://link.springer.com/referencework/10.1007/978-3-030-45106-6>.

ORGANISERS

Co-Chairs

- Professor Walter Leal, Hamburg University of Applied Sciences (Germany) and Manchester Metropolitan University (UK)
- Professor Sidat Yaffa, University of the Gambia (Gambia)
- Dr. Moumini Savadogo, Executive Director, West African Science Service Centre on Climate Change and Adapted Land Use (WASCAL)
- Prof. Mouhamadou Hassirou, Chairman of the WASCAL Board



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Scientific Committee

- Prof. Lydia Adeleke, The Federal University of Technology, Nigeria
- Prof. Desalegn Ayal, University of Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
- Professor Boaventura Cuamba, Eduardo Mondlane University, Mozambique
- Prof. Izael Da Silva, Strathmore University, Kenya
- Prof. Jackson Efitre, Makerere University, Uganda
- Dr. Hassan M.El Shaer, Desert Research Foundation, Egypt
- Dr. John Koku, Central University College, Ghana
- Professor Pantaleo Munishi, Sokoine University of Agriculture, Tanzania
- Professor Justice Nyamangara, Chinhoyi University of Technology, Zimbabwe
- Dr. Adebisi-Adelani Oluyemisi, National Horticultural Research Institute, Nigeria
- Dr. Gaspard Rwanyiziri, University of Rwanda, Rwanda
- Dr Menas Wuta, University of Zimbabwe, Zimbabwe

Scientific Support

- Marina Kovaleva, HAW Hamburg & International Climate Change Information and Research Programme (ICCIRP)
- Dr. Mamma Sawaneh, Scientific Coordinator, UTG/WASCAL Doctoral Research Programme on Climate Change and Education
- Dr. Ebrima Sonko, Deputy Director, REPGam Programme at University of The Gambia

Cooperating Organisations

- United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO)
- United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
- World Health Organisation (WHO)
- World Meteorological Organisation (WMO)
- International Climate Change Information and Research Programme (ICCIRP)
- International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT)

VENUE

The Symposium will be held in Banjul, the capital city of The Gambia, which has many international connections.



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PROFILE OF PARTICIPANTS

Delegates attending the Symposium will come from a cross-sectoral range of areas, from across the African society and the international community. These are:

1. Researchers at universities and research centres;
2. Teaching staff at universities;
3. Representatives from NGOs and companies;
4. Representatives from UN and national development and aid agencies working with climate change adaptation in Africa and funding/ executing projects on the ground;
6. Project officers and consultants;
7. Other people interested in the field.

The participation of African doctoral students is warmly encouraged and supervisors/advisers are kindly requested to facilitate their participation. The sort of international exposure and the rich content of this Symposium will be beneficial to their work and careers.

It is believed that this wide range of participants will help to outline the need for and the usefulness of integrated approaches towards climate change mitigation and adaptation in Africa and, hence contribute to the further consolidation of this thematic area.

STRUCTURE OF THE EVENT

The Symposium will be organised in two main strands:

[Strand 1: the posters](#)

Participating organisations will be able to put-up posters describing their works and projects and to distribute the relevant information to the participants. The posters will allow close, one-to-one contacts between the participants and the exhibitors.

[Strand 2: the presentations](#)

A set of presentations, divided into five main themes will be organised, distributed over parallel sessions dealing with some of the issues of strategic value in the field of climate change mitigation and adaptation. These are:



Session 1: Implementing Climate Change Adaptation in Rural Areas and Communities, Cities, Countries and via Outreach Programmes

Session 2: Climate Change Adaptation, Resilience and Hazards (including droughts/floods and disasters management)

Session 3: Climate Change and Agriculture

Session 4: Information, Communication, Education and Training on Climate Change

Session 5: Climate Change and Health

A number of cross-cutting issues such as **attribution, loss and damage**, as well as how climate change adaptation may **reduce poverty** and **improve livelihoods**, will also be discussed.

The plenary and parallel sessions, as well as the social events, will provide participants with an outstanding opportunity to interact, network and learn about the latest ideas, projects and practices, mainstreaming climate change mitigation and adaptation in the African continent.

TIME-TABLE

The Symposium will be held on 1st-3rd March 2023 in Banjul, the capital of The Gambia. Banjul International Airport also known as Yundum International (IATA: BJL) is one of Africa's hubs, and has many international connections. The schedule is as follows:

WEDNESDAY 1 st MARCH 2023	THURSDAY 2 nd MARCH 2023	FRIDAY 3 rd MARCH 2023
Afternoon: arrival, registration and lunch, plenary session followed by a Reception	All day: Plenary Sessions Parallel Sessions Evening: Reception and Networking	All day: Plenary Sessions Parallel Sessions 16:00 –Close of the Symposium

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In order to ensure an efficient use of the time, delegates are kindly asked to organise their travel in a way that allows them to arrive in Banjul in the morning of 1st March 2023, and travel back on or after 3rd March 2023, so they can fully take part in the Symposium.

DEADLINES

Deadline for submission of abstracts: 20th December 2022

Deadline for submission of papers: 20th February 2023

Deadline for registrations: 20th February 2023

Since the book “**The contribution of universities to climate change mitigation and adaptation**” is expected to be launched shortly after the event, the deadlines need to be followed.

FEES AND CHARGES

A discounted fee of € 200 to non- African delegates and € 150 to African delegates (€ 50 to students), will be charged to those who register until 20th December 2023 (early bird registration). After that, delegates will need to pay the full fee of €250, € 200 and € 100 respectively. The fee includes lunches and coffee breaks on 1st, 2nd and 3rd March 2023, as well as an evening reception on 1st March, and a dinner on 2nd March 2023.

This is a self-funded event and the organisers are unable to pay any travel or accommodation costs of any kind. Letters of invitation may be sent to those delegates who have registered and paid their fees only.

REGISTRATION AND CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION

Registrations are now open and are possible until 20th February 2023. Regrettably, logistical limitations mean that registrations after the deadline will not be possible. Since the space for posters and the time for presentations is limited, **delegates are advised to register as soon as possible**. The organisers will notify any interested delegate or organisation in case there are any limitations with time for presentations or space for displays. Registered delegates will then receive further details on the payment of the fees and updated information on the preparations for the event. The decision as to which papers will be accepted for presentation will be taken by the Chairpersons, following consultation with the organising committee. Participants registering to the event will do so under the condition that they will cover their own travel, accommodation and incidental costs (e.g. visa fees) related to their trip to Banjul. **This is a self-funded event and the organisers are unable to pay any travel or accommodation costs of any kind**. Letters of invitation to enter The Gambia can be only be sent to bona fide, registered delegates, who have paid their fees and need a document to show their employers. For cancellations of registrations up to 30 days before the event, a 50% refund may be

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made. For cancellations after the 20th February 2023 no refunds will be possible. Registrations are now open and may be made on-line at: <http://www.haw-hamburg.de/en/ftz-nk/events/africa2023.html>

CONTACT POINTS FOR SCIENTIFIC INPUTS, STRATEGIC COOPERATION AND GUIDANCE ON PUBLICATIONS

All questions related to scientific inputs, abstracts and strategic partnerships, as well as the book, should be sent to:

Professor Walter Leal (BSc, PhD, DSc, DPhil, DEd, DLitt, FSB, FRGS, FLS)
Hamburg University of Applied Sciences (Germany) and Manchester Metropolitan University (UK)
E-mail: info@iccip.net.

and/ or

Professor Sidat Yaffa
University of The Gambia
The Gambia
E-mail: syaffa@utg.edu.gm

CONFERENCE ADMINISTRATION AND CONTACT POINT FOR FURTHER DETAILS

All questions related to registrations, should be sent to Marina Kovaleva, International Climate Change Information and Research Programme (ICCIRP) at: marina.kovaleva@haw-hamburg.de.

All questions related to local issues, visas, options for accommodation and other local details should be sent to:

Dr. Mamma Sawaneh, Scientific Coordinator, UTG/WASCAL Doctoral Research Program on Climate Change and Education. Email: msawaneh@utg.edu.gm
Dr. Ebrima Sonko, Deputy Director, REPGam Program at University of The Gambia. Email: esonko@utg.edu.gm

HOW TO SUBMIT AN ABSTRACT

An abstract should be up to 200 words, it should describe the rationale and aims of the paper, and some of its results. General descriptions of broad contexts should be avoided. The full contact details about the author(s) need to be provided. Abstracts should be written in the third person and not in the



first or second one (e.g. I, me, or my paper). Please see below a sample abstract. Authors whose abstracts have been accepted, will receive further details about how to submit their full papers, and further logistical information. Please send your abstract to: Marina Kovaleva at: marina.kovaleva@haw-hamburg.de.

SAMPLE ABSTRACT

Please send your abstract to Marina Kovaleva at: marina.kovaleva@haw-hamburg.de.

Promoting Climate Change Adaptation in Developing Countries: breaking misconceptions and addressing information needs

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Abstract

The impacts of climate change to natural ecosystems, infra-structure and livelihoods, means that the implementation of climate change adaptation strategies in developing countries has become a pressing issue. Among other factors, the undertaking of adaptation strategies is made difficult by the general lack of awareness and spread misconceptions about the real impacts of climate change which, in turn, slow down the execution of the adaptation initiatives needed, and which may ameliorate them. This paper presents an analysis about the misconceptions related to the implementation of climate change adaptation strategies, and describes the most widespread ones, as well as their implications. A special emphasis is given to the problems and barriers caused by misinformation, which – in turn – prevent the promotion of adaptation initiatives at local level. Finally, some concrete steps which may be taken in order to break the misconceptions and foster a more systematic view of adaptation strategies, are outlined. Experiences gathered in this paper will be useful to people and organisations interested in the different levels of responses given to climate change threats, and on some of the tools which may be used to encourage specific action to adapt to changing climate conditions.