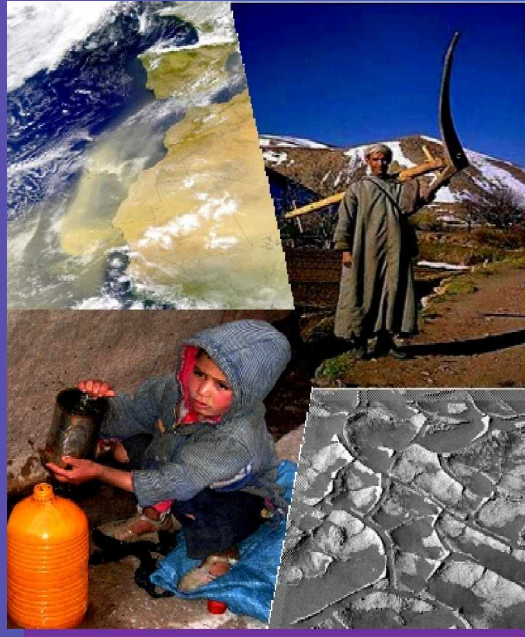


WORKSHOP ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND ADAPTATION IN THE MAGHREB (CCAM)

Supported by the Climate Change and Adaptation in Africa program

CLIMATE CHANGE IN THE MAGHREB: THRESHOLDS AND LIMITS TO ADAPTATION

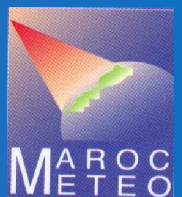
NOVEMBER 25 – 26, 2008, MARRAKECH, MOROCCO



In preparation for climate change:

What appropriate and effective climate change adaptation strategies for the Maghreb?

Call for participation



Workshop Title:

Climate change in the Maghreb: thresholds and limits to adaptation

Organizers:

- University Cadi Ayyad, & Semailia Faculty of Sciences, Marrakech
<http://www.ucam.ac.ma>
- le Centre de Développement de la Région de Tensift (CDRT)
<http://www.cdrt-marrakech.ma>
- Maroc Météo: Direction de la Météorologie Nationale (DMN)
Secrétariat d'Etat auprès du Ministère de l'Energie et des Mines,
de l'Eau et de l'Environnement,
Chargé de l'eau et de l'Environnement
<http://www.marocmeteo.ma>
- NC DIVERSITAS Morocco (Comité de Pilotage National)

Co-organizers:

- Observatoire du Sahara et du Sahel (OSS) <http://www.oss-online.org>
- START <http://www.start.org>

Organizing Committee

- M. MESSOULI *FSS- UCAM- NC Diversitas*
- M. YACOUBI- KHEBIZA *FSS- UCAM*
- L. BOUARAB *FSS- UCAM*
- A. EL ALAMI EL FILALI *FSS UCAM*
- A. BEN SALEM *FSS- UCAM*
- B. GHALLABI *FSS- UCAM*
- S. ROCHDANE *FSS- UCAM*
- F. Z. HAMMADI *FSS- UCAM*
- F. HALLAM *FSS- UCAM*

- A. MOKHLISSE *CDRT*
- A. CHEHBOUNI *CDRT*

- M. JANEH *DMN*
- A. MOKSSIT *DMN*

- H. VIRJI *START*
- C. SEIPT *START*

- Y. SOKONA *OSS*

Participants:

Research Scientists, Practitioners, and Others

The workshop participants include, but not limited to, research scientists, practitioners, policy and decision makers government officials, and community leaders from the Maghreb countries. Participants are expected to come from all relevant institutions such as national and regional government's institutions, commissions, community development entities, NGOs, universities, and the private sector. This workshop will focus on expanding the participants to include all of those who are engaged in agricultural, water, natural resources, and livelihood development.

Venue:

Marrakech (to be defined)

Duration and Dates of Workshop:

Duration: 2 days.

Dates: 25-26 November 2008

Workshop Languages:

The work shop activities will take place using both English and French languages.

Introduction

The Maghreb countries are vulnerable to impacts from climate changes, including impacts due to changes in sea level rise, droughts, floods, and increased frequency and intensity of severe weather events. This vulnerability makes the development of strategies to mitigate climate change impacts in the Maghreb countries extremely important.

A wide array of adaptation strategies is available. However, more extensive adaptation to what currently exists is required in order to respond to increasing vulnerability due to climate change. There are barriers, limitations, and costs, which are not fully identified, evaluated, and understood. Climate Change and adaptation in the Maghreb (CCAM) - Marrakech workshop is aimed at addressing these needs. Although the CCAA Marrakech Meeting in 2008 will highlight CCAM program current activities, the workshop will establish newer but advance overall scientific framework based on significant *themes* that are coherent to the Climate Change and Adaptation in Africa (CCAA) program's objectives and the lessons learned from the past experience.

Workshop Goal and Objectives:

Goal

The goal of the workshop is to catalyze new initiatives in North Africa for regional collaborations to advance climate change adaptation research, assessment, data and information sharing, training, education, policy planning, and coordination between all stakeholders.

Workshop Objectives:

1. To identify sectors, systems, and/or places within the Maghreb region where society is most vulnerable to climate change (i.e., "climate change hot spots");
2. To identify thresholds of identified "hot spots" beyond which potentially "dangerous" changes (to society) will occur;
3. To explore adaptation options and strategies in systems and sectors nearing their threshold(s);
4. To explore potential barriers to adaptation that may limit societies' ability to adapt to climate change and opportunities for overcoming these barriers;
5. To explore metrics useful for estimating the short and long-term impacts of climate change and climate change adaptation (monetary and non-monetary) to help decision-makers evaluate adaptation options and strategies; and
6. To explore opportunities and barriers to adaptation offered by different forms of institutional governance.

Outputs and Achievement of Objectives:

The overall objectives of the ACCMA workshop are to enable the Maghreb countries to respond effectively to climate change risks by applying rigorous scientific assessment techniques, encouraging information collection and sharing, and identifying required capacity building programs. These responses should be targeted toward the most vulnerable regions and sectors where capacity building is needed.

To achieve such objectives the following three outcomes are expected to be produced:

- 1- Better understanding of scientific advancements in the sciences of climate change, possible vulnerabilities, ecological and socioeconomic impacts, and benefits and costs of adaptation and mitigation strategies;
2. Enhancement of scientific assessment techniques, data collection, information sharing, and identification of relevant capacity building programs in the Maghreb countries. This outcome include creating multi-disciplinary teams to evaluate Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) findings related to the Maghreb region and address their specific implications; and

3. Improvement of national communication networks between academic, policy makers, and grass roots communities to enable successful adaptation and mitigation strategies and formulating of specific plans of actions.

For each of the intended outcomes, we will identify indicators to measure performance. For each of these outcomes we will characterize baseline levels and present measures of the possible path to success by relevant climate change strategies, programs, projects, and activities. To explore, identify, and design these measurement indicators, the Workshop on Climate Change and Adaptation in the Maghreb (CCAM) activities will include:

- Presentations of the scientific findings by the workshop participants and discussion on the quality of these scientific outputs;
- Demonstrations of developed assessment methods appropriate to the specific climatic, demographic, and socio-economic characteristics of the Maghreb countries;
- Initiation and establishment of networks between academic, decision-making, and community organizations leaders;
- Creation of network between individuals and/or institutions to initiate south to south capacity building activities;
- Paving the level ground for North African actors to engage internationally, on a same playing field levels, on issues related to climate change assessments and climate change adaptation and mitigation studies;
- Discussion on appropriate and innovative methods and technologies to be considered and used to develop national and regional decision making plans and implementation relevant to climate change adaptation in the Maghreb region;
- Producing specific recommendations and guidelines on climate change monitoring methods and climate change strategies;
- Outlining frameworks for future needed studies on climate change impact on ecosystems, biodiversity, and quality of life as well as studies on integrated environment management strategies;
- Assessments of short, medium, and long term vulnerability to the increased climatic volatility in the Maghreb region; and
- Evaluation of the relationship between climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies on one hand and poverty reduction strategies on the other hand.

Technical recommendation will be published in the workshop reports, forwarded to key scientific programs (e.g. ACCA, IPCC AR5...) and distributed widely via popular press and workshop webpage (in construction)

Workshop Themes:

Theme 1: Understanding ecosystem thresholds in climate change in the Maghreb

Climate change models projections indicate significant global bio-physical and ecological changes. This theme addresses questions such as: What are the barriers and limitations that face today climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies? What are the bio-physical and ecological thresholds beyond which it is not feasible for societies and

communities to apply climate change adaptation strategies? What might adaptation means in a system nearing a threshold? Is it possible to adapt if the climate change impact is irreversible? Which habitat ranges, ecosystem functions, and threats of extinction for particular species, have been identified to constitute the thresholds?

Theme 2: Adaptation Catalyst Metrics; indicators for measuring the effectiveness of adaptation

The purpose of this theme is to explore useful metrics needed for estimation the short- term and long-term impacts of climate change on various sectors, both in monetary and non-monetary terms. Such metrics will support the decision–makers mission to evaluate climate change adaptation strategies at both regional and national levels. These metrics allow the decision makers to rank potential adaptation strategies and policy options, using the criteria of maximizing benefits and minimizing risk under climate change scenarios. Furthermore, the effectiveness of these metrics enables stakeholders and policy makers to identify levels of risk and vulnerability of their systems. They will also be able to identify the need for substantial changes in management practices and planned actions to mitigate and adaptation against climate change. The need for substantial need for change level should be based on quantified triggers of specific levels of thresholds reached beyond which the substantial changes are necessary.

The workshop is expected to offer better understanding of the distinction between anthropic and climate change origins. The workshop will also extend the discussion about the human influence accelerating changes in natural phenomena. We have to consider the irreversible processes linked to climate change.

The key four questions of this theme are:

- What most appropriate methodological approaches and issues related to climate change adaptations in the Maghreb?
- What are the Indicators to measure effectiveness of adaptation that are specific to the agriculture sector?
- What are indicators to measure effectiveness of adaptation Indicators that are specific to water resource, water scarcity, and water allocation?
- What are the policy implications of climate change adaptation matrices?

Theme 3: What are the institutional changes required to address climate change?

Institutional change poses profound challenge to contemporary forms of governance. At some level, this challenge has been recognized in the effort to create indicators of sustainable development, quantitative measures that enable decision makers to factor in elements of climate change adaptation strategies into decisions that might otherwise have relied solely on economic criteria. But the challenge to governance addressing climate change issues requires efforts that go beyond creating new indicators. New governance processes are required that can facilitate the inclusion of new information, new values, and

new measures into decision making related to climate change adaptation. This, in return, requires new institutional settings and, prior to that, adaptability of current institutions. New arrangements must be made to rebalance the relationship between formal and informal institutions for successful climate change adaptation to succeed. Consequently, channels for communication between citizens and experts, acknowledging that citizens hold valuable knowledge, are corner stones to creating sustainable changes at the communities and society levels. This communication channels cover all spectrums from the village, city, state, and region to the intentional domains.

Key questions to be addressed during the theme will include:

- What are the barriers to adaptation within various governance structures?
- In what ways does the uncertainty about climate change act as a limitation for government institutions to response to climate change?
- What sort of information are needed at each level of governance city, region, and country to response effectively to climate change and design and implement successful strategies?
- What is role of research and development R&D and technology development comes to play to ease climate change impacts?
- Can the government structure be an obstacle against design, planning, and implementation of successful climate change mitigation and or adaptation strategies? How to identify and overcome such contradiction if present.

Theme 4: Free thematic areas

In addition, the CCAM 2008 Workshop will focus on any other thematic areas related to climate change particularly in the Maghreb.

Deadline and Guidelines for Submitting Abstracts:

We would like to invite papers and posters to be presented in the workshop based on the three workshop themes. Subjects should be related to the Maghreb region.

- Abstracts must be submitted on or before Friday, 10 October 2008.
- Abstracts must be submitted via email message, in English as Word file attached, send to the e-mail address below. The abstract should be concise, intellectual, and draw attention to the significant contents of the paper and the author's principle results and conclusions. It must not exceed 300 words, nor contain any uncommon abbreviations or literature citations.
- The abstract must be submitted in Microsoft Word format. Abstracts should NOT be submitted as PDF files.
- The abstract should be formatted in A4 paper's size. The title for the abstract should be formatted in bold using a 12 point Arial font. Keep the title of the abstract short and precise and reflect the subject of presentation or the poster.
- Include the names and addresses of the author(s). Include complete mail address, and email addresses of the author(s) and their institutional affiliation.

- Add no more than five keywords in a new line after author's line(s) about the subject of the abstract.
- The body of the abstract should be written using the same font (Arial 12 points) of the title without bold formatting. The abstract text should be single-spaced and all margins should be 2.5 cm. Titles and headings and text body should not be underlined.

Please send your abstract to: M Messouli messouli@gmail.com

Travel Assistance.

The CCAM Workshop will provide travel assistance to a limited number of workshop participants who are in need for financial assistance to attend the workshop. These partial awards may cover some (but not all) of the following items: travel to Marrakech, hotel, and per diem. The applicants are expected to be able to finance their own expenses and or receive support from another organization to cover at least one element of the mentioned expenses. Funding available for travel assistance is limited and will be given on need base and will require acceptance of an abstract and active involvement in the workshop activities.

Priority will be given to:

- Researcher scientists, students, advocates, educators, regulators, and practitioners from the Maghreb countries
- Participants with accepted workshop abstracts.

Requirements:

An Application Letter that includes:

- Title(s) of the abstract(s) submitted;
- Clear description of major professional activities;
- Description of recent involvement in climate change related activities (community leadership activity, research, education, outreach, policy and decision making);
- Paragraph clearly expressing need for financial assistance including an estimate of funds requested (i.e., air travel, hotel, meals, etc.), expressing also which cost will be covered by the applicant or sponsoring organization; and
- No more than two pages Curriculum Vitae (CV)

Presenters from developed countries will not be supported even though they may originally have been residents or citizens of developing countries.

Registration Fee:

No registration fee is required.

Registration:

Please fill out the registration form for the workshop online at the CCAM website: (coming soon)

Keynote Speakers

Currently we have invited keynote speakers and we are waiting for their reply. This page will be updated as the process moves along.

Provisional Program

<u>Workshop Program</u>	Day 1	Day 2
	Tuesday	Wednesday
08:00 - 09:00	Registration	
09:00 - 10:00	opening ceremony	Plenary keynote lectures Sessions 3 & 4
10:00 - 10:30	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>	
10:30 - 11:00	Plenary keynote lecture Session 1	Sessions 3 & 4: oral presentations
11:00 - 13:00	Session 1: oral presentations	
13:00 - 14:00	<i>Lunch break</i>	
14:00 - 14:30	Plenary keynote lecture Session 2	Plenary keynote lecture Session 4
14:30 - 15:30	Session 2: oral presentations	Session 4: oral presentations
15:30 - 16:00	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>	
16:00 - 16:30	poster sessions 1&2	poster sessions 3&4
16:30 - 18:00	Sessions 1&2: open discussion of technical and policy-related issues	Sessions 1&2: open discussion of technical and policy-related issues