

SYMPOSIUM

ON CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION IN AFRICA „FOSTERING AFRICAN RESILIENCE AND CAPACITY TO ADAPT“

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia | 21st-23rd February 2016



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BACKGROUND

It is widely known that Africa is one of the most vulnerable continents to climate change. As the Fifth Assessment Report (AR5) 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.

It is against this background that the “**SYMPOSIUM ON CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION IN AFRICA**” is being organised by Manchester Metropolitan University (UK), Addis Ababa University, the Research and Transfer Centre “Applications of Life Sciences” of the Hamburg University of Applied Sciences (Germany) and the International Climate Change Information Programme (ICCIP). The Symposium will be a truly interdisciplinary event, mobilising African and non-African scholars undertaking research and/or executing climate change projects in the African continent.

The “**SYMPOSIUM ON CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION IN AFRICA**” will focus on “fostering African resilience and capacity to adapt”, meaning that it will serve the purpose of showcasing experiences from research, field projects and best practice in climate change adaptation in African countries, which may be useful or implemented in other countries in the 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 ON CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION IN AFRICA**” are as follows:

- I. to provide research institutions, universities, NGOs and enterprises from Africa and those working in Africa with an opportunity to display and present their works in the field of climate change adaptation;
- II. to foster the exchange of information, ideas and experiences acquired in the execution of climate change adaptation 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 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, the **book “Climate Change Adaptation in Africa: fostering African resilience and capacity to adapt”** will be published, with all accepted papers. 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. In addition, **a set of papers selected by the coordination team** will be published in a special issue of the **International Journal of Climate Change Strategies and Management** (a fully indexed journal, also at ISI /Thomson Reuters), under the title “Climate Change Adaptation Practices in African Countries”. 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.

ORGANISERS

Co-Chairs

- Professor Walter Leal, Manchester Metropolitan University (UK) and Hamburg University of Applied Sciences (Germany)
- Professor Belay Simane, Addis Ababa University (Ethiopia)

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Scientific Committee

- Professor Alan C Brent, Stellenbosch University, South Africa
- Professor Boaventura Cuamba, Eduardo Mondlane University, Mozambique
- 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
- Professor Nicholas Oguge, University of Nairobi, Kenya
- Dr Menas Wuta, University of Zimbabwe, Zimbabwe

Scientific Support

- Josep de la Trincheria, Hamburg University of Applied Sciences (Germany)
- Desalegn Dawit, Addis Ababa University (Ethiopia)

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 Programme (ICCIP)
- International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI)
- International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT)

PROFILE OF PARTICIPANTS

Delegates attending the “**SYMPOSIUM ON CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION IN AFRICA**” will come from a cross-sectoral range of areas, from across the African society and the international community. These are:

1. members of NGOs working with climate change;
2. researchers at universities and research centres;
3. teaching staff at universities;
4. representatives from companies;
5. representatives from UN and national development and aid agencies working with climate change adaptation in Africa and funding/ executing projects on the ground;

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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 adaptation in Africa and, hence contribute to the further consolidation of this thematic area.

STRUCTURE OF THE EVENT

The “**SYMPOSIUM ON CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION IN AFRICA**” will be organised in two main strands:

Strand 1: the displays

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

Strand 2: the presentations

A set of presentations, divided into six main themes will be organised, distributed over parallel sessions dealing with some of the issues of strategic value in the field of climate change 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)

Session 3: Climate Change and Agriculture

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

Session 5: Climate Change and Health

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 adaptation in the African continent.

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TIME-TABLE

The “**SYMPOSIUM ON CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION IN AFRICA**” will be held on 21st-23rd February 2016 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The **airport of Addis Ababa** is one of Africa’s major hubs, and has many international connections. The schedule is as follows:

SUNDAY 21 st FEBRUARY 2016	MONDAY 22 nd FEBRUARY 2016
<p>Afternoon: Arrival and set-up of displays</p> <p>Evening: informal get-together of participants for informal chats and networking</p>	<p>All day: Exhibition and visit to displays</p> <p>Morning: Plenary and Sessions</p> <p>Afternoon: Plenary and Sessions</p> <p>Evening: Reception</p>
TUESDAY 23 rd FEBRUARY 2015 (morning)	TUESDAY 23 rd FEBRUARY 2015 (afternoon)
<p>Morning: Plenary and Sessions</p> <p>Exhibition and visit to displays</p>	<p>Afternoon: Plenary and Sessions</p> <p>Exhibition and visit to displays</p> <p>Round-table with key experts & Conclusions</p>

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 Addis Ababa in the course of Sunday the 21st February 2016, and travel back on or after the 24th February 2016, so they can fully take part in the Symposium.

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DEADLINES

Deadline for submission of abstracts: 20th November 2015

Deadline for submission of papers: 30th January 2016

Deadline for registrations: 30th January 2016

Since the conference book is expected to be launched shortly after the event, the deadlines need to be followed.

FEES AND CHARGES

A discounted fee of € 300 to non- African delegates and € 200 to African delegates (€ 100 to students) plus 19% VAT, will be charged to those who register until 30th December 2015 (early bird registration). After that, delegates will need to pay the full fee of €350, € 250 and € 150 respectively (plus 19% VAT). The fee includes lunches and coffee breaks on 22nd and 23rd February 2016, as well as the evening reception on 22nd February 2016.

Organisations or individuals not able to pay this fee should contact the Secretariat so that it may be reduced in special cases. Interested people and organisations are encouraged to register by completing the application form provided. **This is a self-funded event and the organisers are unable to pay any travel or accommodation costs** of any kind. They are however happy to issue letters of invitation to support delegates to request funding for their participation.

REGISTRATION AND CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION

Registrations are now open and are possible until the 30th January 2016. Regrettably, logistical limitations mean that registrations after the deadline will not be possible. Since the space for displays 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 Manchester. **This is a self-funded event and the organisers are unable to pay any travel or**

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accommodation costs of any kind. Letters of invitation to enter Ethiopia 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 made. For cancellations after the 5th February 2016 no refunds will be possible. Registrations are now open and may be made on-line at: <http://www.haw-hamburg.de/en/ftz-als/veranstaltungen/africa2016.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:

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

and/ or

Belay Simane
Associate Professor of Environment and Agriculture
College of Development Studies
Addis Ababa University
Ethiopia
E-mail: simaneb@yahoo.com

CONFERENCE ADMINISTRATION AND CONTACT POINT FOR FURTHER DETAILS

All questions related to registrations, options for accommodation and local details should be sent to:

Prof. Belay Simane and Desalegn Dawit
Addis Ababa University
Ethiopia
E-mail: dawitdesalegn6@gmail.com



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.

SAMPLE ABSTRACT

(PLEASE SEND YOUR ABSTRACT EXACTLY WITH THE FORMAT BELOW TO PROFESSOR LEAL AT: info@iccip.net)

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

Walter Leal (BSc, PhD, DSc, DPhil, DEd, DLitt, FSB, FRGS, FLS)
School of Science and the Environment
Manchester Metropolitan University
Chester Street
Manchester, M1 5GD
United Kingdom
E-mail: info@iccip.net

Abstract

The impacts of climate change to natural ecosystems, infra-structure and livelihood, 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 changes threats, and on some of the tools which may be used to encourage specific action to adapt to changing climate conditions.