

RAPPORT DE MISSION

I. INFORMATIONS GENERALES

Composition of the Mission	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dr. Andre KAMGA FOAMOUHOUE: Directeur General 2. Dr. Roméo Sosthène NKURUNZIZA : Expert Climat 3. Godefroid NSHIMIRIMANA: Expert Prévisionniste 4. Serge BAYALA : Expert en Communication
Mission Objective	Participation in the Twenty-seventh United Nations Climate Change Conference COP27
Activities carried out during the Mission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Preparation and organization of the four side events in the different pavilions at COP27 ✓ Participation in the panel at a side event organized by the AUC, ECA, WMO and AfdB ✓ Preparation and organization of four side events on different themes ✓ ACMAD DG's speech at the HighLevel Panel ✓ Communication at COP27 ✓ Interview on the AfdB's studio
Mission duration	From 06 to 18 November 2022
Venue	Sharm EL Sheikh
Sponsor	Projet ClimSA-ACMAD
Prepared by	NSHIMIRIMANA Godefroid
Approved by	Dr Andre KAMGA FOAMOUHOUE
Date of Submission	09 December 2022



II RESUME EXECUTIF

The climate challenge is one that requires multinational, multisectoral cooperation, and international forums can accelerate action in the right direction at a time when rapid emissions reduction is crucial. COP provides an opportunity to elevate the voices of those most vulnerable to climate change's impacts on an international stage, create opportunities to foster cooperation between countries who might otherwise be at odds, and provide a forum to ask difficult questions about creating decarbonization plans that can be achieved in the real world. While criticism of COP has rightfully questioned whether global climate talks are truly an effective method of implementing change and reducing emissions, conferences like COP are an important instrument in the climate advocacy toolbox.

The Conference of the Parties (COP) is an annual climate conference hosted by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), an international environmental treaty adopted and implemented by countries throughout the world in 1994 to address the issue of climate change. The "Parties" refers to the 197 countries that ratified the agreement, representing almost universal global involvement. The UNFCCC Conference of the Parties (COP) is a regular event held once a year to review progress, assess achievements, discuss existing and emerging challenges and developments, and agree on the way forward for the implementation of the Convention.

The objectives of the UNFCCC are to "stabilize greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system" and prevent human damage and interference with the climate system. COP is an annual meeting of the UNFCCC to discuss progress and take action on these goals.

The COP27 or "the African COP" is an opportunity to spotlight the African continent's special needs and circumstances. The African Development Bank will take part in COP27 to join African countries in amplifying Africa's voice and priorities on climate change.

This year's conference brought together leaders in government, civil society, industry, and finance from around the world to raise ambition and accelerate action to achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement and the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change.

The COP27 was held at a critical moment in the fight against climate change and ACMAD was there to share the findings of this report with African negotiators and policymakers providing science-based information for negotiations and debates on climate action. A continental technical coordination mechanism involving WMO, and Regional Climate Centres in Africa was set up to prepare and present the annual state of climate report for Africa raise awareness to African negotiators and other stakeholders for the changes we need, **making sure the world's most influential leaders understand that we must:**

- ✓ Develop the next generation of innovative clean energy and climate solutions;
- ✓ Center the development needs of the Global South and support those on the front lines of climate change;
- ✓ Move from ambition to action, accountability, and implementation;
- ✓ Reduce carbon emissions and methane emissions simultaneously.

The 2022 UNFCCC COP 27 were organized in Sharm El Cheikh, Egypt, 7-18 November 2022 to discuss the implementation of commitments made at COP 26, particularly on the yearly review of Nationally Determined Contributions to tackle climate change. Policy makers, negotiators, and leaders from private sector, science, and civil society will participate. The COP27 was also marked by several thematic agreements, on deforestation or methane. It should be noted that what is important about this COP27 compared to other COPs is that the world leaders started to discuss concrete things and concluded with a historic decision to establish and operationalize a loss and damage fund. ***“Together, let’s not relent in the fight for climate justice and climate ambition,”*** said the Secretary-General in his closing statement. “We can and must win this battle for our lives.”

The participation of the ACMAD team had as objective to share the findings of this report with African negotiators and policymakers providing science-based information for negotiations and debates on climate action. A continental technical coordination mechanism involving WMO, and Regional Climate Centres in Africa was set up to prepare and present the annual state of climate report for Africa and share with users and partners the experience of ACMAD in the field of Disaster Resilience in Africa through the implemented projects and to share the perspectives through the ClimSA Project, it was also an opportunity to improve the visibility of ACMAD through the organization of side events, participations in panels and interviews on the different TV channels.

The important moment was the speech of the Director General at high level segment where he highlighted the mission and ACMAD’s perspective in climate change combat at continental level.

It should also be noted that ACMAD's participation at COP27 corresponds to Objective 2.2 support Services for Mitigation and adaptation to Climate Change of ACMAD's 2019-2023 Strategic Plan.

III. INTRODUCTION

The Climate change is accelerating and the impacts are becoming significantly damaging across Africa. It has become imperative for many African countries to integrate comprehensive disaster risk and climate change management into development processes, as this is crucial to minimizing negative impacts across the economy and society.

By 2020, up to 40 percent of Africa's landmass was affected by heavy rainfall that could result in flooding. In the early 1980s, less than 10 percent of Africa's land was exposed to this hazard.

The recent AMCOMET high-level segment prioritized the development and delivery of early warning systems to build resilience to current urgent and accelerated disasters, this have been emphasized by the accelerating that Target timeline with the announcement by UN Secretary-General António Guterres on 23 March 2022 to *"lead new actions to ensure that everyone on Earth is protected by EWS within five years."*

The African Union Commission, ACMAD, WMO, UNDRR and their partners are collaborating to assess the state of the climate for African climate change stakeholders and establish a Situation Room institutionalizing and operationalizing multi-hazard early warning and information exchange in Africa.

The COP 27 provided a premier venue to share the findings of the State of Climate over Africa with African negotiators and policymakers providing science-based information for negotiations and debates on climate action. A continental technical coordination mechanism involving WMO, and Regional Climate Centres in Africa was set up to prepare and present the annual state of climate report for Africa. Through introductory presentations during the four (04) side events ACMAD shared showcase the products highlighting the results of coordinated work at continental level taking Africa's integration agenda forward in the field of climate action.

This COP27 in Sharm el Sheikh provided evidence on the proof of climate change, its impacts and drivers, current response measures being implemented, lessons learned and the way forward in Africa, there were discussions on priority hazards to be considered for multi-hazard warnings in Africa, shared information on current response options for climate change impacts, including the emerging continental situation watch room to strengthen early warning systems to support disaster risk management and climate change adaptation.

The participation of the ACMAD delegation at the 27th Conference of the Parties (COP 27), which was held from November 6 to 18, 2022, went on as planned in the 2022 work plan. However, it is important to note that the ACMAD delegation left Niamey on 05th November 2022.

In accordance with the ToRs, the main objective of this delegation was to ensure the visibility of ACMAD at the international level through introductory presentations during the side events in particular by DG's speech at high level segment and the distribution of communication materials.

More specifically, many activities were successful conducted by ACMAD delegation such as:

- ✓ Preparation and organization of four side events on MHEWS. State of Climate for Africa in 2021, Building cities resilience in Africa, climate resilience integration in the planning for Infrastructure development in Africa;
- ✓ Participation at side event on the operationalization of AMHEWS in Africa at Africa pavilion on Africa Day;
- ✓ Participation at Niger Pavilion: side event of the High Commission for the 3N Initiative on water management: mobilization and valorization of water resources for the development of irrigation, priority option for adaptation to climate change in Niger;
- ✓ Participation in side event on "Climate Change Initiatives of Regional Institutions in West Africa" in DG was a panellist;
- ✓ Meeting with SYNC Company discussion on collaboration of the Submission of the proposal of project for Google Grant;
- ✓ Meeting the Assistant of U.S Special Envoy John Kelly, the representative of US Embassy at AUC and the Director of NOAA African desk;
- ✓ Meeting with AUC and UNECA's Division Director
- ✓ Participation in meeting with G-STIC representative in preparation of the side event on 11 Nov and other issue related the implementation of the projects;
- ✓ Participation at UK Pavillon on 10 Nov ICPAC's Side event on Science for Adaptation Action: Building Climate Resilience through Weather and Climate Services
- ✓ Dr. Romeo Sosthene Nkurunziza responded to questions about state of climate in Africa report 2021: Interviewed by NRC the published article: <https://www.nrc.no/expert-deployment/2016/2022/climate-change-a-strong-and-united-africa-at-cop27/>
- ✓ Participation at side event on Climate Information Systems- The urgent need for Hydromet organised by ECOWAS;
- ✓ Communication at the COP 26;
- ✓ Interview with the AfDB television channel

IV. DEROULEMENT DE LA MISSION & RESULTATS

➤ Statement by ACMAD's Director General at High-Level Segment

Statements from Intergovernmental Organization are scheduled to be taken up after the completion of national statements. The statements is taken up alphabetically in the following order: IGOs, constituencies and informal groups. All speakers should ensure that they are present in the plenary at the beginning of the observer statement segment for the seating arrangement. IGOs's statements are 3 minutes in duration for each intergovernmental organization and the full text is available on the UNFCCC website.

ACMAD is admitted as an Observer Organisation to the UNFCCC in accordance with FCCC/CP/1995/7 is eligible to attend the high level and have 3 minutes to address key notes. ACMAD's DG address his speech at high level segment on 15th November 2022 on "Urgent and immediate action on multi-hazards, multisector resilience, adaptation and mitigation: The incredible power of partnerships and operational collaboration to deliver quickly and at scale." He mentioned in his speech that the state of climate of Africa indicates that the continent is warming at a rate much higher than the global average, the North Africa warming rate is close to 4 degrees per century almost two times the global average, he informed the high-level segment that 2022 more than half of states in Nigeria were hit by floods. All those facts reflect the need to accelerate, formulation, regular revision and implementation of climate actions as an urgent matter.

He concluded his speech by recognizing the cooperation and support from UN agencies and VITO to ACMAD and collaboration with OCHA in operationalization of the Impact forecasting leading to anticipation action and review or updates of the contingency Plans.

➤ **G-STIC Side event at Benelux Pavilion**

The G-STIC Climate Action Programme side event during COP27 highlighted the impact of climate finance for governments, private organisations, research institutions and NGOs. This event was aligned with the COP27 presidency's priorities and focused on climate finance as well as showcasing best practices and innovative climate solutions. The Government of Flanders launched the G-STIC Climate Action Programme in 2021 to support developing countries in the fight against climate change. By providing financial support to projects for climate change adaptation and mitigation, the G-STIC Climate Action Programme aims to strengthen the implementation of climate policies, strategies, regulations and action plans in developing countries.

ACMAD presented case studies of Climate Forest in Niamey which is one of the approved projects from the G-STIC Climate Action Programme and implemented by ACMAD in Niger.

The expected result of the project is that the volume of urban trees in Niamey will be tripled from 100,000 to 300,000. This should directly produce a 5% reduction in adverse climate impacts on various sectors, such as health (human exposure to excessive heat stress), labour (productivity loss) and energy (for cooling buildings).

ACMAD's Director General informed participants that the results of the project will be used to assess the climate impacts of trees in urban areas, as well as their potential for carbon sequestration.

More details: <https://www.gstic.org/past-events/cop-27-side-event/>

➤ **Side event at RTCC Pavilion on the Urban Climate Information Platform for City Resilience in Africa**

This side event seeks to contribute to increase awareness and sense of urgency with respect to the projected impacts of climate change on future extreme urban heat stress in a pilot African city-Niamey.

Currently, no high-resolution information regarding Niamey's climate future is available, which constitutes a major blocking factor to develop climate resilience measures. Scientifically credible information, and in particular is being offered through an accessible and user-oriented platform, to support **the formulation of measures to enhance Niamey city's resilience to future heatwaves.**

Through introductory presentations, ACMAD's Director General highlight current advances in high resolutions climate change information generation, He presented the showcase future heat waves and potential impacts in the pilot city of Niamey. He addressed key messages on science informed city adaptation options was discussed through dialogue in the panel discussion following presentations.

More details: <https://www.climate-change.tv/12103>

➤ **State of Climate of Africa Side event at Africa Pavilion**

The goal of the side event was to strengthen Africa's participation to global climate debate with these specific objectives are to:

- Raise awareness on the state of Africa's climate and related adaptation challenges;
- Facilitate more commitments at the highest political level to support resilience to disasters and adaptation to climate change impacts in Africa.

Through introductory presentations, this side event will highlight recent climate variability, trends and impacts from continental, regional and/or national levels. Key messages on science informed adaptation options were discussed through dialogue in the panel discussion followed by presentations. The side event was organized in collaboration with other RCC which presented presentations their outcomes followed by discussions on priority resilience and adaptation options. Additional exchanges with the audience will provide final feedbacks on climate trends.

Findings from the annual State of Climate in Africa report are presented at the UN Climate Conference in Egypt (COP27).

<https://www.nrc.no/expert-deployment/2016/2022/climate-change-a-strong-and-united-africa-at-cop27/>

➤ **Side event at Niger Pavilion on the Urban Climate Information Platform for City Resilience in Africa**

The goal of the side event is to raise awareness of policy makers and the public on the quick increase in warming rates, heat waves frequency and severity at city scale supporting prioritization of actions on building high resolution climate information for building resilience to heat waves in African cities. This side event seeks to contribute to increase awareness and sense of urgency with respect to the projected impacts of climate change on future extreme urban heat stress in a pilot African city Niamey. Currently, no high-resolution information regarding Niamey's climate future is available, which constitutes a major blocking factor to develop climate resilience measures. Scientifically credible information, and in particular is being offered through an accessible and user-oriented platform, to support **the formulation of measures to enhance Niamey city's resilience to future heatwaves.**

Through introductory presentations, ACMAD's Director General highlight current advances in high resolutions climate change information generation, He presented the showcase future heat waves and potential impacts in the pilot city of Niamey. The VITO's Expert presented the **platform u-CLIP** which provide climate information and knowledge support for mobilization of climate and development funding at international donor organizations for cities planning and implementation of climate resilience actions. During the side event key messages on science outreach was addressed through dialogue in the panel discussion followed by presentations.

➤ **Side event at Africa Pavilion on the Africa State of Climate**

The COP 27 was a premier venue to share the findings of this report with African negotiators and policymakers providing science-based information for negotiations and debates on climate action. A continental technical coordination mechanism involving WMO, and Regional Climate Centres in Africa was set up to prepare and present the annual state of

climate report for Africa. The side event presented the showcase of products highlighting the results of coordinated work on the state of climate taking Africa's integration agenda forward in the field of climate action.

Through introductory presentations, the side event highlighted the recent climate variability, trends, and impacts from continental, regional, and/or national levels. Key messages on science informed adaptation options were discussed through dialogue in the panel discussion following presentations. The side event was co-organized with presentations from Regional Climate Centres (RCCs) followed by discussions on priority resilience and adaptation options. Additional exchanges with the audience provided final feedbacks on climate trends.

➤ **Participation in side event on "Climate Change Initiatives of Regional Institutions in West Africa" in DG was a panellist**

The goal of the side event was to bring together international expertise to raise awareness of policy makers and the public on the significant benefits of building resilient infrastructure for adaptation to climate change. The Director General addressed key message on the Benefits of building climate resilience in the Plan for Infrastructure Development for Africa.

➤ **Participation at UK Pavillon at ICPAC's Side event on Science for Adaptation Action.**

The side event has a theme "**Building Climate Resilience through Weather and Climate Services**", the side event Focused on how climate information can reach the last miles: this is being done through participatory exercise in association with media. For example, farmers are taught how to plant drought-resistant crops, beekeeping etc... in what is called field school. In this way, farmers are to be able to decide, when, where and what to plant, and when and where fishermen go fishing. These decisions are informed by the use of climate information and indigenous knowledge. Projects such as HIGHWAYS and WISER support(ed) the delivery of the climate information.

Best use of indigenous knowledge (expression of sensitivity, exposure to increasing their adaptability) and scientific evidence to make a difference were presented by ICPAC's representative.

ICPAC's representative addressed key messages on how transferring research findings into decision-making, done through co-production, he emphasized that there is need to understand the needs and the needs have to be tailored, understanding the group, you are working with. It was noted that if climate variability is taken care of and taking a transformative approach is vital to becoming resilient to long-term climate change. Participants appreciated the approach of how the UIP setting is conducted with participatory user training.

The Co-productivity showcase was presented as one of the keys to sustain the project, the beneficiary will be able to continue the service after the project has ended as they have been equipped with tools and skills to work on their own.

➤ **Side event at West Africa Pavilion on Climate Information Systems- The urgent need for Hydromet**

The main objective of the side event was to:

- Enhance synergies between the transparency initiatives by the UNFCCC and EDM-CAA) Project in supporting the countries in Sub-Saharan Africa transitioning and implementing of the ETF;
- Increase outreach and visibility of the project to countries in Sub-Saharan Africa;
- Raise project awareness among eligible Sub-Saharan African countries about these unique opportunities to access much-needed short-term technical assistance;
- south-south knowledge exchanges on climate action for the implementation of the Enhanced Transparency Framework

During the side event the Chief of Environment Division at ECOWAS addressed key message on the urgent need to implement the HYDROMET program and strengthen Africa's capability to interpret climate data. This also includes the development of National Early Warning Systems (NEWS), enhanced and targeted Climate Information Systems (CIS) and the development of programs to restore degraded lands in transboundary river basins and building resilience among populations.

The side event included a presentation from ECOWAS which demonstrated the success of Hydromet and a presentation from Climate Action Africa and its new support mechanism for Sub-Saharan Africa which provides short-term technical assistance.

➤ **Participation in the Africa Day organized by the AUC**

On the invitation of the African Union ACMAD participated in the Africa Day at the Africa Pavilion which had as its main objective to showcase Africa's efforts on resilience building by examining ongoing efforts at policy and operational levels across the continent, discussing best practices, challenges and opportunities for synergy and better programming of resilience interventions. The Africa day was also an opportunity to launch the operationalization of AMHEWS in Africa with President of Mozambique as Guest of Honour and other distinguished personality.

ACMAD's intervention developed as a condensation point for the discussions on the draft Paris Agreement. Participants present including the African Group of Negotiators were briefed on the various services of ACMAD, informed on the preliminary state of the climate in Africa which demonstrated the current state of warming and a significant rate of warming in Africa, but also the recent warming trends in Africa which are a wake-up call for Africa to act on both mitigation and adaptation and to defend the global warming limit of +1.5°.

It was also an opportunity for exchange and dialogue between participants through which the DG had a fruitful discussion with the Representative of SYNC Company discussion on collaboration of the Submission of the proposal of project for Google Grant.

ACMAD's DG had interview with AfDB Chanel dedicated to COP27 and full interview is available on the AfDB website at: <https://www.afdb.org/en/cop27/multimedia>.

➤ **Communication at COP 27**

In terms of communication during the COP27, communication and visibility materials were prepared and highlighted during COP 27: 5 Kakemonos were permanently present at the ACMAD side event venue and at the exhibition stand shared by ACMAD and ICPAC. In addition to this communication material, ACMAD's social media accounts were very active, so ACMAD's activities were broadcasted on Facebook and Twitter with a high audience rate of our followers. Invitations, flyers for the side events were prepared and sent to our partners to follow our different side events with links. Highly appreciated visibility material was distributed to the participants of the COP27 during different side events.

A web page dedicated to ACMAD's participation on the institution's website was produced and updated daily by ACMAD's delegation at COP27 with the program of activities, videos and photos.

V. CONCLUSION

The participation of the ACMAD delegation at the 27th Conference of the Parties (COP 27), was a real success in the sense that it allowed to share with users and partners the experience of ACMAD in the field of disaster resilience in Africa. The participation has also ensured the visibility of ACMAD at the international level whether on the net or in Sharm El Sheikh, also the interview of the DG carried out by the journalists' consultants of the AfDB to contribute to make known ACMAD in Africa and internationally.

Participation in the various side events, panels, and distribution of visibility materials was an opportunity to raise awareness of the ACMAD's vision, mandate, and mission, as well as to share user-friendly and personalized climate information and alerts with decision makers. Thus, it should be noted that the ACMAD delegation was able to use participation in COP27 to motivate alliances for future cooperation that could include US State Department, NOAA-African Desk, AUC, UNECA, SYNC Company, as well as Google.

It is important to follow up on these various alliances or contacts in order to reformulate projects or frameworks for collaboration.

The Reporter
NSHIMIRIMANA Godefroid

VI. ANNEXES

1. ACMAD_ActivitiesCalendar :

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/15JAK6GST-kENyePKa-8azqTw2c9kV0qZ/edit?usp=share_link&oid=111680235089757585282&rtpof=true&sd=true

2. Some Photos and Flyers:



DG ACMAD at High level Segment



Meeting with US State Department and NOAA Representative



Presentation of the U-CLIP Platform at Niger





ACMAD Team with VITO Team after Side event



ACMAD's DG in side event



Participants during side event



Panelist On state of Climate Side event



Speech of SG Of IOC during a Side event



Amb. Sacko Delivered Speech during the side



High level panel during ECOWAS side event



DG as panelist with Ministry of of Malawi



View of Participants during the Side event on the State of Climate in Africa



THE AFRICAN UNION COMMISSION, AFRICAN CENTRE OF METEOROLOGICAL APPLICATIONS FOR DEVELOPMENT (ACMAD), THE INDIAN OCEAN COMMISSION (IOC)

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14 Nov 2022

THEME:

« AFRICA STATE OF CLIMATE: TRENDS, HAZARDS AND IMPACTS IN AFRICA - CLIMATE SERVICES FOR INFORMED

DECISION MAKING AND RESILIENCE BUILDING IN AFRICA »

MODERATORS:

African Union Commission



14:30 a.m - 18:30 P.m
(Local Time)

KEYNOTE ADDRESS:

Speaker 1: H.E. Ambassador Josefa SACKO, Commissioner for Agriculture, Rural Development, Blue Economy and Sustainable Environment - AUC

Speaker 2: H.E. Professor Vêlayoudom MARIMOUTOU, Secretary-General - Indian Ocean Commission (IOC)

Speaker 3: ACMAD - Climate trends and impacts in Africa by RCCs

KEYNOTE ADDRESS:

Speaker 4: IOC - Impacts of the cyclones on the islands of the WIO

Speaker 5: NORCAP - Climate Services for Informed Decision Making and Resilience Building in Africa

Speaker 6: WMO AR1 - Remarks



INTRA-ACP CLIMATE SERVICES AND RELATED APPLICATIONS PROGRAMME
An initiative of the Organization of African, Caribbean and Pacific States funded by the European Union