Devolved Climate Finance

An alliance of government and non-government organisations promoting community-prioritised investment for climate adaptation.
In brief

Developed countries have committed to making sure US$100 billion of funds flows to developing countries by 2020 to respond to the effects of climate change. Several avenues exist to channel funds for climate change adaptation, but once in country, money must flow further to sub-national governments and communities that need it most. An alliance of government and non-government organisations in East and West Africa is working to make the most of this opportunity. Early results demonstrate the benefits that community-led prioritisation and budgeting for climate resilience-building investments can bring to low income households. It’s now time to consolidate lessons learnt, ready to scale up and take the approach to new places.

The devolved climate finance and planning mechanism

The alliance of government and non-government organisations has worked in Kenya, Tanzania, Mali and Senegal to test and refine a devolved climate finance and planning mechanism. It has established institutions to help communities identify and oversee resilience-building investments, using bespoke planning tools. These tools incorporate valuable local knowledge and recognise the different ways climate change affects women, men and marginalised groups. The mechanism draws upon climate information services to enhance planning, and on monitoring and evaluation methods to support learning along the way. It is this systematic approach that makes the mechanism innovative and supports the fulfilment of a common vision to get climate finance to where it matters.

Across the four countries communities have prioritised a total of 240 investments using the devolved climate finance mechanism. The investments support livelihood systems by rehabilitating and expanding water facilities for livestock and domestic use, improving access to livestock health services and supporting market development. They cover investments in weather stations and food storage and processing facilities, fish farming and solar energy. This variety of proposals will help almost 1.5 million pastoralists, farmers and their families to withstand the pressures of an increasingly variable and unpredictable climate and improve their wellbeing.
Mainstreaming climate into the public finance management system

In 2013, the Kenya National Drought Management Authority established the devolved climate finance (DCF) and planning mechanism in the five counties of Isiolo, Garissa, Kitui, Makueni and Wajir with support from the Adaptation Consortium. In 2016, two counties, Wajir and Makueni, passed legislation to formalise the mechanism, known as the County Climate Change Funds, creating the legal basis for them to receive climate finance from both international and domestic sources. An annual minimum of 2 per cent of the county development budget will capitalise the funds in Wajir — 1 per cent in Makueni. The National Treasury in Kenya is investigating ways to channel finance from other sources to the established County Climate Change Funds. Similar initiatives are underway to embed the mechanism into the public finance system in Mali, Tanzania and Senegal.
Supporting accreditation as National Implementing Entities

In Mali and Tanzania, government institutions are making significant progress in building institutional capacity to gain direct access to the Green Climate Fund. The National Agency for Territorial Collective Investments (ANICT) in Mali and the President's Office-Regional Administration and Local Government (PO-RALG) in Tanzania are reviewing and strengthening their existing policies and approaches to meet the standards required to access the Green Climate Fund. Accreditation of these bodies — responsible for the coordination and finance of local development — will improve the respective countries' access to climate adaptation financing, while helping to make sure that such funds reach local communities.

Working with national government training institutions to share knowledge

Two government training institutions in Tanzania — the Local Government Training Institution and the Institute of Rural Development and Planning — are building capacity to train government staff and students on innovations and learning arising from implementation of the DCF mechanism. New training will include modules on participatory resilience planning tools, monitoring and evaluation and climate information services. New students moving into government positions, and existing government officials and staff, will enter posts with an increased understanding of climate risks and approaches to managing them.

Climate information services (CIS)

Being able to interpret and disseminate climate information is essential to long term climate resilient planning. In Kenya, Mali, Senegal and Tanzania, sub-national governments are working with the national meteorological institutions to develop strategies for tailoring and disseminating easily understandable climate information to the household level. This can inform daily decision making and supports sub-national governments to manage uncertainty and risk.

What next?

The alliance is ready to consolidate its practice and learning, expanding the work in all four countries. At the same time, we aim to build the alliance membership to develop and implement the devolved climate finance approach in new countries and test how it might apply in different sectors. And we want to raise the profile of the mechanism, sharing the evidence of the added value it brings.
Where the alliance members work

### Kenya
- Anglican Development Services - Eastern
- Arid Lands Development Focus
- Christian Aid
- Kenya Meteorological Department
- National Drought Management Authority
- Resources Advocacy Programme
- Womankind Kenya

### Mali
- Near East Foundation
- Agence Nationale d’Investissement des Collectivités Territoriales

### Senegal
- Innovation Environnement Développement en Afrique
- Programme national de développement local

### Tanzania
- Hakikazi Catalyst
- Institute of Rural Development Planning
- Local Government Training Institute
- President’s Office-Regional Administration & Local Government
- Tanzania Natural Resource Forum
- The People’s Bank of Zanzibar
- Zanzibar Climate Change Alliance

### Cross-regional
- International Institute for Environment and Development
Get involved

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DCF Alliance member websites
Kenya: www.adaconsortium.org
Mali: www.neareast.org/braced
Senegal: www.iedafrique.org
Tanzania: www.dcfp.go.tz
IIED: www.iied.org

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Page 4: Woman getting water from Makori water catchment, Kenya. Credit: Peter Cacah Photography

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