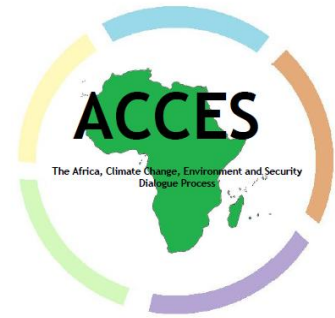


# The Africa, Climate Change, Environment and Security Dialogue Process

ACCES is an international initiative launched in Addis Ababa in 2010 involving representatives of the African continent and others in the international community in order to jointly address the security risks of climate change in Africa from a development and human security perspective. The main aim of ACCES is to design, together with regional and local communities, security sensitive climate change adaptation options, programmes and fundable project concepts which include elements of early warning, response measures, and on-going research, cooperation and dialogue.



The ACCES Dialogue Process has its origins in the conference on “Conflict Prevention and Climate Change” and the “Dialogue Forum on Security Implications and Development Needs related to Climate Change in Africa” organised by the **Folke Bernadotte Academy** and the **Madariaga - College of Europe Foundation** in Brussels in April 2008 - following the launch of the joint paper of the High Representative and the European Commission to the European Council on Climate Change and International Security in March 2008. Participants at the Brussels events in 2008 agreed on the need for the establishment of a regular on-going African-European-international dialogue on the main risks of climate change in Africa and to promote effective participatory adaptation measures.



The first "[Dialogue Forum on Climate Change and Security in Africa](#)" took place on 11 October 2010 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia as a pre-event to the “African Regional Conference of the Global Climate Change Alliance” on 12 October organised by the **European Commission** and the 7th African Development Forum, arranged by the **UN Economic Commission for Africa**, the **African Union Commission** and the **African Development Bank** on 11-15 October.

The Vulnerability Discussion Paper, which formed the basis for discussions at the Dialogue Forum, was a collaborative effort that focused on five key areas of vulnerability: **water security, food security, energy security, migration and natural hazards**.

The discussion paper and the final [Vulnerability Report](#) included contributions from the following organisations:

- **United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP),**
- **United National Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO),**
- **United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO),**
- **International Organization for Migration (IOM),**
- **Global Water Institute (GWI),**
- **Institute for Environmental Security (IES),**
- **Kulima Integrated Development Solutions,**
- **Madariaga—College of Europe Foundation, and**
- **Peacebuilding and Crisis Prevention, Federal Government of Germany**

The 2010 activities were made possible thanks to many in-kind contributions and the generous financial support provided by the **Federal Government of Germany** and the **Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA)**.

The 2010 report mapped out the security implications of climate change in Africa in a holistic way by assessing the macro- and micro-level security risks in the five mentioned domains. Each cell adopted its own methodology which is reflected in the differing approaches of the thematic analyses. Without aiming to deliver exact predictions, and without bias towards individual countries or regions, the Discussion Paper identified a number of climate change and security “hot spots” in Africa as a means to call attention to their vulnerabilities and to trigger early action.



## The Future of the ACCES Dialogue Process – 2011-2014

The current 3-year ACCES programme aims to promote the development of multilateral and multi-level collaborative platforms which will identify climate risks and fundamental human security needs of local people, while generating dialogue between the donor community and concerned populations, state actors and local communities and within local communities. Such dialogues will facilitate the raising of awareness and seek solutions tailored to the individual country needs. The dialogues will utilise a participatory approach, help to focus attention on human security and generate synergic effects.

The methodologies to be employed will be multidisciplinary and the dialogue process will require a high level of cooperation and coordination among the participating organisations. The climate change and security risk analyses and the identification of potential adaptation options, programmes and projects will be carried out by Working Groups with African and international members supported by National Dialogue Platforms in five different regions of the continent.



The ACCES Coordinating Group is currently considering which regions / countries will be the focus for research and dialogue in the coming three years. The provisional list is as follows:

- Horn of Africa: Ethiopia,
- East/Central Africa: Burundi,
- West Africa/Sahel: Mali,
- Southern Africa: Zambezi River Basin, and
- Coastal/Island States: Madagascar.

In each case the research and dialogue process will be led by Working Groups dealing with the following themes:

- Water Security,
- Food Security,
- Energy Security,
- Migration,
- Natural Hazards, and
- Peace & Security.

The process will include the development of:

- Vulnerability Maps / Risk Analyses – For discussion at the 1<sup>st</sup> national roundtables in each focal country
- Inventories / Needs Assessments - For discussion at the 2<sup>nd</sup> national roundtables in each focal country
- Sets of Fundable Projects – For discussion and action at the annual ACCES Dialogue Forums

The organisation of the national roundtables should lead to the establishment of sustainable ACCES National Dialogue Platforms.



The Dialogue Process will benefit from links with the **UN-EU Partnership project on Natural Resources, Conflict and Peacebuilding** and the **United Nations Inter-Agency Framework for Coordination on Preventive Action** which aim to strengthen the ability of national stakeholders and their UN and other international counterparts to analyze, prevent and resolve disputes over land and water, and to minimize tensions over natural resources.

ACCES is also working to develop synergies with activities in the framework of the **Africa-EU Strategic Partnership** including the **Partnership on Climate Change** and the **Partnership on Peace and Security**.

### For further information:

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