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<tr>
<td>ACMAD</td>
<td>African Centre for Meteorological Applications for Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AfDB</td>
<td>African Development Bank</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AGN</td>
<td>African Group of Negotiators</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AGRHYMET</td>
<td>Agriculture, Hydrology and Meteorology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMCEN</td>
<td>African Ministerial Conference on the Environment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMCOMET</td>
<td>African Ministerial Conference on Meteorology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AU</td>
<td>African Union</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUC</td>
<td>African Union Commission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUDA/NEPAD</td>
<td>African Union Development Agency/New Partnership for African Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFOLU</td>
<td>Agriculture, Forestry and Land Use</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAHOSCC</td>
<td>Committee of African Heads of State on Climate Change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAPC-CA</td>
<td>Climate Application and Prediction Centre for Central Africa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMESA</td>
<td>Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COP</td>
<td>Conference of Parties</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSO</td>
<td>Civil Society Organizations</td>
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<tr>
<td>DRM</td>
<td>Disaster Risk Management</td>
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<tr>
<td>DRR</td>
<td>Disaster Risk Reduction</td>
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<tr>
<td>EAC</td>
<td>East African Community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECCAS</td>
<td>Economic Community of Central African States</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECOSOCC</td>
<td>Economic, Social and Cultural Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECOWAS</td>
<td>Economic Community of West African States</td>
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<tr>
<td>ETF</td>
<td>Enhanced Transparency Framework</td>
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<td>FAO</td>
<td>Food and Agricultural Organisation</td>
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<td>GDP</td>
<td>Gross Domestic Product</td>
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<td>GHG</td>
<td>Greenhouse Gas</td>
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<tr>
<td>ICPAC</td>
<td>IGAD Climate Prediction and Application Centre</td>
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<tr>
<td>IGAD</td>
<td>Inter-Governmental Authority on Development</td>
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<td>IDDRSI</td>
<td>IGAD Drought Disaster Resilience and Sustainability Initiative</td>
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<td>IPCC</td>
<td>International Panel on Climate Change</td>
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<td>KP</td>
<td>Kyoto Protocol</td>
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<td>LDC</td>
<td>Least Developed Countries</td>
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<tr>
<td>M&amp;E</td>
<td>Monitoring and Evaluation</td>
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<tr>
<td>NDC</td>
<td>Nationally Determined Contribution</td>
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<tr>
<td>Acronym</td>
<td>Full Form</td>
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<tr>
<td>NGO</td>
<td>Non-Governmental Organization</td>
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<tr>
<td>PA</td>
<td>Paris Agreement</td>
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<tr>
<td>PESTEL</td>
<td>Political, Economic, Social, Technological, Environmental and Legal</td>
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<tr>
<td>RCC</td>
<td>Regional Climate Centers</td>
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<td>REC</td>
<td>Regional Economic Community</td>
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<td>SADC</td>
<td>Southern African Development Community</td>
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<td>SADC-CSC</td>
<td>SADC Climate Services Centre</td>
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<td>SDGs</td>
<td>Sustainable Development Goals</td>
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<td>SDFRR</td>
<td>Sendai Framework on Disaster Risk Reduction</td>
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<td>SIDS</td>
<td>Small Island Developing States</td>
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<tr>
<td>SWOT</td>
<td>Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats</td>
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<tr>
<td>UN</td>
<td>United Nations</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNDP</td>
<td>United Nations Development Programme</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNECA</td>
<td>United Nations Economic Commission for Africa</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNEP</td>
<td>United Nations Environment Programme</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNICEF</td>
<td>United Nations Children’s Education Fund</td>
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<td>UNFCCC</td>
<td>United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change</td>
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<td>WHO</td>
<td>World Health Organisation</td>
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<td>WMO</td>
<td>World Meteorological Organisation</td>
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Africa is comprised of 55 Member States all of whom are members of the African Union. With a population of over 1,2 billion people, it is the eleventh largest economy in the world with a nominal gross domestic product of about US$2,3 trillion (International Monetary Fund, 2019). Area wise, Africa is the second largest continent after Asia. The African population is the youngest in the world and the continent is set to be the most populous by 2023 (International Energy Agency, 2019).

The Pan African Vision framed in Agenda 2063 is that of: ‘An integrated, prosperous and peaceful Africa, driven by its citizens and representing a dynamic force in the global arena.’ Attainment of this Vision is threatened by the impacts of climate change unless decisive efforts are made globally to adapt to and mitigate its effects. Although climate change has been the subject of much political controversy, the scientific evidence is overwhelming that ‘warming of the climate system is unequivocal’ (International Panel on Climate Change, 2013).

The findings of the 2019 State of the Climate in Africa by the World Meteorological Organization confirm that Africa faces the greatest impacts of climate change. This is despite Africa having contributed the least to the greenhouse gases that are causing climate change. Highlights of some of the findings are summarized as follows: the year 2019 was among the three warmest years on record for the continent. Annual rainfall exhibited sharp geographical contrasts in 2019, with totals remarkably below long-term means in Southern Africa and west of the High Atlas Mountains and above-average rainfall recorded in other areas, particularly in Central and East Africa. Significant regional variability in sea-level trends around Africa was noted as sea-level increase reached 5 mm per year in several oceanic areas surrounding the continent and exceeded 5 mm per year in the south-western Indian Ocean from Madagascar eastward towards and beyond Mauritius. The areas most affected by drought in 2019 were in Southern Africa and many of the same areas were also affected by a protracted drought in 2014–2016. In contrast, a dramatic shift in conditions was experienced in the Greater Horn of Africa, from very dry conditions in 2018 and 2019 to floods and landslides from heavy rainfall in late 2019. Flooding also affected the Sahel and surrounding areas from May to October 2019.

The African youth must grapple with the reality of a stolen future, robbed by climate change as they are especially vulnerable today and will face the far worse predicted future consequences. The impacts of climate change on youth include school disruptions, social
and political disorders, food insecurity, diseases, threats to water and sanitation services to name a few.

African women are also disproportionately affected due to their higher levels of poverty, lower levels of education and being less involved in decision making. Their responsibilities are more vulnerable to the impacts of climate change as they depend on environmental resources for their sustenance such as water, firewood and other forest products and agriculture which is a climate sensitive sector.

African countries have been active in the global climate change negotiations and have all signed the Paris Agreement of 2015. They submitted their Nationally Determined Contributions and are implementing national climate actions. The African Union Commission, Regional Economic Communities and their agencies together with many other partners have programmes supporting Member States and communities in their climate strategies and actions.

While much has been achieved by these programmes, the continent still lags other regions of the world primarily due to insufficient capacities and resources.

Adaptation remains unquestionably and rightly the top priority for African countries. To create optimal responses, mitigation needs to be considered to balance the climate change solution equation. It is recognised that the continent has an immense mitigation potential in its vast land mass, forests, agricultural systems and oceans. Africa also has unrivalled potential for renewable energy, especially solar for its own development and export. This potential should be quantified and put on the table as the continent’s contribution in return for the finance and technology needed to adapt and develop despite climate change.

Agenda 2063 calls for united efforts, self-reliance, Africa financing its own climate smart, all-inclusive, people-driven development and Africa speaking with one voice in global fora. This is the guiding philosophy for the Africa Climate Change Strategy. This Strategy was arrived at through reviewing the 2014 Draft Continental Climate Change Strategy, the 2015 Paris Agreement, the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, the Africa Programme of Action on Disaster Risk Reduction, the Sendai Framework and national and regional climate change frameworks. Feedback received from key stakeholders, Regional Economic Communities, academia, the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment and civil society organisations was incorporated to produce a climate change strategy for Africa with a fresh and holistic outlook. As the world is made up of dynamic
and complex interrelationships, the Africa Climate Change Strategy is designed as a living document to keep pace with global, continental, regional and national developments.

The Overall Objective of the Africa Climate Change Strategy is to contribute to the ‘Achievement of the Agenda 2063 Vision by building the resilience of the African continent to the impacts of climate change.’ The Logical Framework is the road map that defines how to attain the Specific Objective of this Strategy which is to contribute to the attainment of SDG 13: ‘Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts’ through streamlined adaptation and mitigation responses to climate change in Africa. Five key results are envisaged for this Strategy:

**Result 1:** Effective institutional capacities to implement climate change strategies  
**Result 2:** Climate change strategies are streamlined and implemented  
**Result 3:** Africa speaks with one voice  
**Result 4:** Resilience built, and vulnerability reduced  
**Result 5:** Investments into climate related areas  
**Result 6:** Increased access to finance and technology

The Strategy is intended for the African Union, the Regional Economic Communities together with their organs and agencies, Member States’ departments and institutions responsible for issues on climate change and its impacts. Non-governmental organizations, civil society organisations, partners and the private sector are encouraged to streamline their climate change strategies and programmes to the Africa Climate Change Strategy for coherence of climate action in Africa.
Part I: INTRODUCTION
The African Union (AU) comprises all 55 African countries. At 29 million km$^2$, Africa is the second largest continent after Asia. Its population is over 1.2 billion with a nominal gross domestic product (GDP) of US$2.6 trillion. Its population is the fastest growing and youngest in the world. It is set to become the world’s most populous region by 2023 overtaking China and India.

The main objectives of the AU are to achieve greater unity, cohesion and solidarity amongst African countries; to defend the sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence of its Member States; and to accelerate the political and social-economic development and integration of the continent. The AU works through the following organs: The Assembly of Heads of State and Government, the Executive Council, the Committee of Permanent Representatives, the Specialized Technical Committees, the Peace and Security Council and the African Union Commission (AUC). The AU promotes the participation of all citizens and civil society through the Pan-African Parliament and the Economic, Social and Cultural Council (ECOSOCC). Specialized agencies of the AU, regional economic communities (RECs) and their institutions, the African Development Bank (AfDB) and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) are the principal drivers of the African Renaissance and continental integration.

The AU’s Vision is articulated in Agenda 2063 as: ‘to ensure the realization of its objectives and the attainment of the Pan African Vision of an integrated, prosperous and peaceful Africa driven by its citizens and representing a dynamic force in international fora.’ This is termed ‘The Africa We Want.’ Agenda 2063 is anchored on Declarations and Aspirations that define the ideology to guide all African initiatives and form the bedrock of this Strategy.

Rationale and Objectives of the Africa Climate Change Strategy
According to the World Resources Institute, Africa’s per capita emissions of carbon dioxide were 0.8 tonnes per person compared to a global average of 3.9 tonnes in 2000. This is equivalent to about 3.5 per cent of total global emissions and is projected stay below 4 per cent by 2035. Despite this miniscule contribution, Africa is set to bear the brunt of this crisis.

This Strategy defines the main parameters for an effective, coordinated climate change response for the African continent that builds resilient capacities for adaptation and
unlocks the benefits of the massive mitigation potential of the continent. It also provides a robust framework for ensuring climate justice for Africa and Africans through effective participation as an equal at the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and other fora.

The Overall Objective of the Africa Climate Change Strategy is to contribute to the ‘Achievement of the Agenda 2063 Vision by building the resilience of the African continent to the negative impacts of climate change.’ The Specific Objective is to contribute to the attainment of SDG 13: ‘Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.’

The Strategy is intended for the AU, its organs and agencies, the RECs, the Member States agencies and departments responsible for issues on climate change and its impacts. Non-governmental organisations (NGOs), civil society organisations (CSOs), partners and the private sector, are encouraged to align their climate change strategies and programmes to the Africa Climate Change Strategy for coherence of climate change action in Africa.

PART II: CONTEXT

The Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) issued in 2014 confirmed the human cause of climate change through emissions of great amounts of greenhouse gases (GHGs) chiefly carbon dioxide whose concentration in the atmosphere rose to 410 parts per million from pre-industrial (1700s) levels of 280 parts per million. This level of carbon dioxide was last seen 800,000 years ago when global temperatures were 2-3°C higher than now, the sea levels were several metres higher than at present and it was before the advent of modern humans (Lindsey, 2020).

The global climate is dynamic and naturally changes over geological time. Changes to the global climate inevitably lead to changes in other environmental conditions, planetary dynamics and biodiversity. The climate ultimately determines which species evolve and thrive or become extinct.

The emergence of homo sapiens about 200,000 years ago stimulated innovations that enabled man to rise to the apex and dominate the planet like never seen before. The most transforming innovation of the controlled use of fire enabled man to cook thereby expanding the availability and range of foods which enhanced man’s adaptive capacity.
and resilience. The controlled use of fire enabled man to smelt metals and graduate from the stone age producing spears for defence and hunting, progressing into increasingly sophisticated arms, tools, machines, structures, power plants, vehicles, planes, spacecraft, electronics, military and industrial hardware, health, social and political systems. These innovations brought about unprecedented growth in the human population, wealth and living standards across the board and the emergence of the global village that the world is today.

This progress brought with it an insatiable demand for the planet’s finite resources which exerted a heavy toll on the environment from the massive amounts of land, water and air pollution, degradation and depletion of the planet’s natural capital and biodiversity.

**African Climate**

The African climate is controlled by a complex mix of large-scale weather systems from distant parts of the planet and the continent itself. No other region in the world has experienced longer and spatially extensive droughts as Africa. Each sub-region of Africa is impacted differently further adding complexity to the crisis. In southern Africa there is a delay in the onset of and an early end to summer rains. Central Africa is a sub-region that drives the rest of the planet's weather system and is now perilously close to the rainfall minimum needed to support this second largest rainforest system in the world after the Amazon (Niang et al., 2014).

Africa’s complex climate system and events are also influenced by the three main oceans. Out of one of these warming oceans, tropical cyclones Idai and Kenneth emerged killing and displacing thousands and destroying parts of Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Malawi and Tanzania in 2019. Cyclones often affect the islands of Madagascar and Mauritius.

**IPCC Predictions**

The IPCC has issued five assessment reports since 1988. The latest is the Fifth Assessment Report that was issued in two parts in 2013 and 2014 with an additional Synthesis Report issued in November 2014. AR6 is expected in 2021.

The crucial findings of the Fifth Assessment Report are:
- The most significant driver of climate change is the increase of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere
- The global surface temperature rise is likely to exceed 1.5°C in most scenarios and likely to exceed 2°C in many scenarios
- Climate change will continue even after carbon dioxide emissions are stopped

In 2018, the IPCC issued a special report on the impacts of global warming of 1.5°C where it found that:
- Human activities have so far caused 1.0°C of global warming
- Global warming is likely to reach 1.5°C between 2030 and 2052

Regarding Africa, the report stated that:
- Land temperatures are forecast to rise faster than the global average reaching between 3°C and 6°C by the end of the century
- By the end of the century, sea-level rise is expected to be approximately 10 per cent higher along Africa’s coastlines than the global mean
- Climate change will interact with non-climate drivers to exacerbate vulnerability
- The progress made in managing risks to food production from current climate vulnerability will not be adequate to address the long-term impacts
- Institutional arrangements in Africa cannot yet effectively co-ordinate the range of adaptation initiatives being implemented

**Kyoto Protocol**
Global authorities have been seized with climate change and its impacts leading to the establishment the UNFCCC in 1992 to marshal all countries of the world to find a lasting solution and limit the global temperature rise. The Kyoto Protocol (KP) was signed in 1997 and became international law in 2005. Its objective was to reduce the onset of global warming by reducing the concentration of GHGs. It put the onus to reduce emissions on developed countries as they were responsible for the increase in the concentrations of GHGs in the atmosphere. The KP had two commitment periods, 2008-2012 and 2012-2020. Whilst many of the signatories of the Protocol met their emission reduction targets, some countries withdrew from the KP and others opted for the flexibility mechanisms of the Protocol by funding emission reductions in other countries as their national emissions were higher than their targets. This was the genesis of the Clean Development Mechanism and the birth of the carbon market and carbon trading.
Paris Agreement
The Paris Agreement (PA) was arrived at in 2015. As of 2020, all UNFCCC members had signed the PA and 189 had ratified it (UNFCCC, 2020). The PA’s long-term goal is to limit global temperature rise to less than 2°C below pre-industrial levels and make efforts to further limit the increase to below 1.5°C. A critical feature of the PA is the implementation of global stocktakes which are set to be carried out every five years starting in 2023. Each country determines and reports regularly on its contribution and undertakings to limit global warming. These voluntary undertakings and targets are the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). There are no mandatory targets, however, each new voluntary target must go beyond the previous one. All developed and developing nations that are Parties to the UNFCCC are required to report on their mitigation actions every two years and will be subjected to uniform technical and peer reviews. Although more flexibility is accorded to developing Parties at the beginning, all Parties bind themselves to the commitments they make.

Despite all the commitments, support and actions taken through current and previous initiatives, the Emissions Gap Report found that GHG emissions have risen 1.5 per cent per year over the last decade and that the G20 nations collectively account for 78 per cent of all emissions (United Nations Environment Programme [UNEP], 2019). According to the World Resources Institute (n.d.), all NDCs to date put the world on track for a global warming of 3°C or more by 2100. Ominously, each subsequent report by the IPCC paints a grimmer picture than the one before.

Africa and the UNFCCC
While Parties to the UNFCCC are all equal under international law, the conditions in Africa, of note its fledgling physical and economic systems, make the continent (and other developing nations) more vulnerable to the changing weather patterns. This is the basis for the G77 Negotiating Group at the UNFCCC of which Africa, with its 55 members is the largest bloc.

Africa’s Common Position on Climate Change
The Committee of African Heads of State on Climate Change (CAHOSCC) was established in 2009 by the AU Assembly of Heads of State and Government to spearhead the African Common Position on climate change and ensure that Africa speaks with one voice in the global climate change negotiations at the UNFCCC starting with the Conference of Parties (COP) 15 in Copenhagen, Denmark. The African Common Position,
which evolves in response to the progress of the negotiations and changing circumstances on the continent, is arrived at through sustained consultations at the national, REC and the African Group of Negotiators (AGN) levels. The outcome of these consultations is tabled for approval by the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN) and endorsed by the CAHOSCC. This is the Position that guides the AGN members in their engagement at the UNFCCC, its mechanisms, bodies and panels.

Adopting an African Common Position enables the few delegates from each of the countries on the continent to pool and ensure adequate representation and backing for key African interests in all the negotiation streams especially on climate justice, access to finance, technology and capacity for adaptation. A common position enables streamlined approaches in implementing climate action bringing about synergies, effectiveness and economies of scale. A good example of an effective common position is the European Union which has an overarching and binding regional target of becoming a carbon neutral region by the year 2050. All efforts and resources are channelled towards this common objective greatly enhancing success prospects.

However, due to the unique history and circumstances of Africa, there are challenges of implementing and maintaining a sustainable common position. This stems from the fact that the bonds holding Africans together appear at times weaker than those binding some Africans to other groupings with similar climate change interests. A realistic common African strategy and targets driven by visionary leadership to adequately address the common interests of all Africans and gives hope for the future is the logical starting point. The Africans can then take this position to the other groupings they belong to creating an even broader front for the war on climate change.

**Implementation Facilitation**

Several global and/or international funding and capacity enhancing mechanisms, facilities and partnerships have been set up within and outside of the UNFCCC to support vulnerable developing country actions to tackle climate change and its impacts. Substantial amounts have been mobilised or pledged for these initiatives. African countries are lagging other regions in accessing these resources.
COVID-19 Pandemic (to include some of the points from the STC report)

Further compounding the global and climate change context, the year 2020 witnessed the emergence of the COVID-19 global pandemic that has thrown the world into unchartered waters, exposing the fragility of the relationships between people, planet, profit and politics simultaneously unleashing economic, social upheavals and uncertainty.

COVID-19 is likely a zoonotic disease which is defined as ‘any disease or infection that is naturally transmissible from vertebrate animals to humans’ (World Health Organisation [WHO], 2020). UNECA (2020) suggests that the emergence of new human diseases is closely linked to loss and degradation of ecosystems and habitats, which in turn is driven by climate change, resource extraction, urban and agricultural expansion and pollution. It is not a new revelation that human health and the health of the environment are inextricably linked. According to the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health (n.d.) combustion of fossil fuels like coal, oil and natural gas contribute to climate change and release pollutants that lead to early death, heart attacks, respiratory disorders, stroke, exacerbation of asthma…'

At the time of writing of this Strategy, the full impact that this pandemic will have on Africa and the world is not fully known. However, some of the projected impacts of the pandemic from UNECA’s 2020 Policy Brief titled ‘Impact of COVID-19 in Africa’ are summarized below to provide context of the additional multipliers brought about by the pandemic that Africa will have to address in order to effectively combat climate change and its impacts.

- Africa’s GDP will drop by 1.4 per cent if the impact of COVID-19 takes the world into a deep recession. This recession will further see a drop in Africa’s total exports by 16.7 per cent with the resultant revenue losses of up to 5.3 per cent
- Many Africans face food insecurity because of this crisis
- School closures have left over 330 million learners of all levels and over 8.5 million teachers unable to learn or teach from home
- Health systems are likely to be overwhelmed by a rapid spread of the disease
- Prolonged suspension of critical economic activity; continued emergency measures, in some cases associated with human rights violations; delayed electoral processes and political transitions; as well as inequalities in access to food and basic services disproportionately affect the poor and other vulnerable
groups, including women, girls and children caught up in conflict could coalesce, to spark unrest, (re)ignite conflicts or upset fragile peace processes.

There is growing evidence that many of the same human activities that are contributing to climate change are also contributing not only to the emergence of new diseases but also to their spread and that climate change is a pandemic enabler, a pandemic accelerant and a multi-pathway crisis engine (Reliefweb, 2020).

The economic impact of the pandemic has once again put the spotlight on the thorny issue of debt and the imperative for restructuring as many countries are on the verge of defaulting.

The planet is on a slippery trajectory towards possible self-destruction and a serious re-evaluation of humanity’s interactions with nature to ensure a win-win outcome for all is urgent and imperative.

PART III: SITUATION ANALYSIS

A hybrid of the PESTEL and SWOT analysis was used to understand the interaction of external and internal factors regarding climate change on the continent to inform action areas for the Strategy. The acronyms are:

- **P** = Political: how government intervenes, influences, stability, policies
- **E** = Economic: economic growth, international growth, purchasing power, pricing
- **S** = Social: demographic trends, growth, age distribution, lifestyles, health and safety, cultural, inter-cultural
- **T** = Technological: innovation, regulation, automation, disruptive technological changes
- **E** = Environmental: increasing scarcity of raw material resources, emission targets, ecology, weather, planetary wellbeing and corporate social responsibility
- **L** = Legal: laws and protections, rules and regulations

**SWOT**: S = Strengths, W = Weaknesses, O = Opportunities and T = Threats

The SWOT analysis is applied to each of the PESTEL factors in Table 1 below:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>POLITICAL</th>
<th>STRENGTHS</th>
<th>WEAKNESSES</th>
<th>OPPORTUNITIES</th>
<th>THREATS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>-Pan Africanism</td>
<td>-Small states</td>
<td>-Closer African unity</td>
<td>-Balkanisation</td>
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<td></td>
<td>-Political commitment</td>
<td>-Historical ties</td>
<td>-Stronger common positions</td>
<td>-External influences</td>
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<td></td>
<td>-AMCEN, STCs</td>
<td>-Different political systems</td>
<td>-Streamlined approaches</td>
<td>-Political instability, conflicts</td>
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<td>-Weak institutions and governance</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>ECONOMIC</td>
<td>-Natural capital</td>
<td>-Diverse interests</td>
<td>-Low or negative emission development</td>
<td>-Globalisation</td>
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<td></td>
<td>-Mitigation capacity</td>
<td>-Small economies</td>
<td>-Diversification</td>
<td>-Scramble for Africa’s resources</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>-RE potential</td>
<td>-Low values</td>
<td>-RE and green hydrogen exports</td>
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<td>-Carbon trade</td>
<td>-can render Africa’s resources worthless</td>
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<td>-African Diaspora</td>
<td>-Weak innovation, entrepreneurship</td>
<td>-Financing own development</td>
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<td>-Pvt sector engagement</td>
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<td>SOCIAL</td>
<td>-Young population</td>
<td>-Unemployed youth bulge</td>
<td>-New African narrative</td>
<td>-Globalisation</td>
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<td>-Ubuntu spirit</td>
<td>-High poverty and vulnerability level</td>
<td>-Re-focused education</td>
<td>-Erosion of cultures and traditions</td>
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<td>-Diverse but compatible cultures</td>
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<td>-Low technology capability</td>
<td>-Innovating African solutions</td>
<td>-Substitution Obsolescence</td>
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<td>-Affordable off the shelf green technologies</td>
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<td>-Young population is more adaptable</td>
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<td>-Engaging the youth bulge</td>
<td>-Protectionism</td>
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<td>ENVIRONMENTAL</td>
<td>-Pristine ecosystems</td>
<td>-Little knowledge</td>
<td>-Restoration and development of ecosystems</td>
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<td>-Biodiversity</td>
<td>-Over-exploitation</td>
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<td>LEGAL</td>
<td>-Continental, regional national instruments</td>
<td>-Weak law enforcement</td>
<td>-Legal preparedness</td>
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<td>-Low investigation capacity</td>
<td>-Harmonisation of legal systems</td>
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This Strategy aims to anchor and build actions on the strengths, take full advantage of the opportunities while addressing the weaknesses and neutralising the threats in all the PESTEL factors.

**Geography**

Africa has diverse climates, geography and landscapes with the: Sahara, Sahel, Ethiopian Highlands, Savannas Tropical and rainforests, Islands and Great Lakes recognized as Africa’s predominant physical regions. It is in this diversity that the weaknesses and
strengths lie for each country or region regarding climate change management. Thus the Africa Climate Change Strategy cannot be too prescriptive, but must be flexible, relevant and applicable to the diverse regions and Member States such as coal, oil and gas producers, desert, arid and semi-arid, rainforest, small island developing states (SIDS), Least Developed Countries (LDCs), medium to high income countries.

Africa’s particular aridity deserves special attention pertaining to climate change as it is the driest of the world’s continents with 45 per cent of its landmass falling under dry lands and 50 per cent of the population living in arid, semi-arid, dry, sub-humid and hyper-arid areas (Kigomo, 2003). It is forecast that climate change induced water stress could affect up to 700 million people in arid and semi-arid areas (United Nations Decade for Deserts and the fight Against Desertification, 2011). The impacts of climate change add to the already difficult water management challenges in the arid and semi-arid regions increasing the likelihood of the escalation of latent tensions and potentially fueling resource wars (Mirzabaev et al., 2019).

**Vulnerability**

‘Strictly speaking, there are no such things as natural disasters, but there are natural hazards. A disaster is the result of a hazard’s impact on society. The effects of a disaster are determined by the extent of a community’s vulnerability to the hazard (or conversely, its ability, or capacity to cope with it). This vulnerability is not natural, but the result of a range of constantly changing physical, social, economic, cultural, political and even psychological factors that shape people’s lives and create the environments in which they live’ (United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction [UNISDR], 2002).

The IPCC defines climate vulnerability as the degree to which a system is susceptible to, and unable to cope with adverse impacts’ (Schneider et. al., 2007). Developing countries are more vulnerable to the effects of climate change as they have lower adaptive capacities (Guillaumont and Simonet, 2011). Africa’s peculiar vulnerability to climate change and its impacts is brought about by the effects of multiple stressors notably; low adaptation and mitigation capacities fueled by scant finance and investments. According to UNEP (2019), if international efforts to keep global warming below 2°C do not succeed, the continent would need to invest an additional US$ 50 billion per year in climate change adaptation by 2050 meaning more competition for the meagre financial resources available.
Poor and complex governance, conflicts, weakened capacities, high disease burden, food insecurity and endemic poverty greatly exacerbate Africa’s vulnerability to climate change. An inversely proportional relationship thus exists between vulnerability to climate change and its impacts and African development. To overcome the challenges of this link, addressing climate change and its impacts cannot, and should not, be addressed separately from Africa’s development.

**Poverty**

422 million Africans, live below the poverty line representing 70 per cent of the world’s poor (Hamel, Tong and Hofer, 2019); 250 million Africans are food insecure (Food and Agriculture Organisation [FAO], 2019); 326 million people in Sub Saharan Africa are without access to an improved water source (Ritchie and Roser, 2019); 1/3 of children, adolescents and youth are out of school (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation, 2018) and 90 per cent of Africans live in informal housing (World Bank, 2015). According to WHO, Africa carries 25 per cent of the world’s disease burden but its share of global health expenditures is less than 1 per cent (Africa Renewal, 2017). According to the World Bank (2020), 210 million Africans are affected by conflicts and climate change and its impacts are likely to add increased political, societal, economic and environmental instability. About 675 million people – 90 per cent of them in sub-Saharan Africa are projected to remain without access to electricity in 2030 leaving them to rely on traditional biomass fuel for cooking which contributes to emissions. (International Energy Association, 2019).

The economic landscape of African countries depends essentially on the dynamics of climate variability and change due to the limited diversification of most African economies. Key sectors driving Member States’ economic performance and livelihoods such as agriculture, forestry, energy, tourism, coastal and water resources are highly vulnerable to climate change (Abiodye and Ayodele, 2015). Under a high-warming scenario, west Africa and east Africa could experience a reduction in GDP per capita of about 15 per cent by 2050 whilst northern and southern Africa could experience a decrease in GDP per capita approaching 10 per cent by 2050, whilst Central Africa could experience a possible decrease of 5 per cent in the high warming scenario (UNECA, 2017).

For many, the pressing demands of food security, poverty eradication, water health and sanitation take precedence over combating climate change. However, relegating climate
change to second place to these ‘needs’ is a self-defeating own goal as its impacts affect the very needs that are prioritized. Hence, a paradigm shift is critical in the setting of national priorities to sustain the development momentum and attain the ‘Africa We Want’ in tandem with well-coordinated and managed climate actions.

**Agriculture**
Agriculture, which is the prevalent economic activity in Africa, suffers 26 per cent of the loss and damage during climate-related disasters in developing countries (World Meteorological Organisation, [WMO], 2019). The prolonged droughts in the Horn and east of Africa; unprecedented floods in west Africa; shrinking rainforests in equatorial Africa; a rise in ocean levels and acidity across Africa’s coasts and islands and extreme climate events threaten agricultural productivity and food security; health, water and energy security, which in turn weaken Africa’s capacity to grow and develop. According to Boko et al., (2007), rain-fed agriculture productivity could drop by as much as 50 per cent by 2050 in some countries. The IPCC predicts that wheat may disappear from Africa by 2080, and that maize productivity will fall significantly in southern Africa. Arid and semi-arid lands are set to increase with severe ramifications for food security, livelihoods, poverty eradication and meeting the SDGs and Agenda 2063 deadlines.

**Cities**
The incessant rural-urban migration and high population growth rates is creating African megacities with populations above 10 million people. While this is a magnet for investors and developers, much of this growth can be classed as unplanned sprawling of often illegal squatter settlements by poor migrants. A number of these settlements are situated in environmentally unsuitable locations prone to flooding and other disasters. This presents many serious challenges for the city authorities to provide adequate services, amenities and infrastructure resulting in urban squalor, disease, conflicts and crime. As the sizes and numbers of cities grow, so does the need to inter-connect them with the food producing areas, raw materials, markets and other economic opportunities. Also, as the African continent integrates, and the countries become more inter-dependent making robust and efficient inter-state infrastructure essential. Africa’s infrastructure gap was estimated by the AfDB in 2018 to require investments of up to US$92 billion per year.

Climate change impacts affect different aspects of cities such as infrastructure, houses and buildings, food security, water, sanitation and health services, ecosystems, economic
and social development. The effects and challenges vary and depend on the characteristics, location and adaptive capacity of the city concerned. Cities require different types of infrastructure such as roads, railways and bridges; power generation, transmission and distribution; communication, water reticulation, waste management, sports and recreation, among others. Climate induced floods, landslides, heavy rainfall, cyclones, storms and sea level rise can damage this infrastructure. Climate resilient infrastructure is thus critical for the attainment of overall resilience and sustainable growth.

There are many livelihood opportunities for the burgeoning urban poor that can be created by organised value chains that integrate food production and marketing with city waste, effluent and energy management to create cleaner, healthier, wealthier, more prosperous and low carbon resilient African cities. Conversely, building prosperous, sustainable and resilient livelihoods in rural and farming areas can stem and even reverse the rural to urban migration. This is a more cost-effective solution with food security, environmental and mitigation co-benefits.

A significant proportion of GHG emissions of African countries is contributed by the cities’ energy, transport, industries, waste generation and other activities. There are several initiatives that promote resilience, sustainability, emission reduction, waste management and air quality enhancement in several African cities. The AUC, RECs and other agencies are urged to initiate programmes within their mandates to support such initiatives.

**Health**

Human health may also be negatively affected by climate change and its impacts which can modify the transmission of diseases such as cholera, malaria, meningitis, and zoonoses such as Ebola and the novel Corona virus. The death rate from climate change is 60 to 80 per cent higher in Africa than it is in the next most vulnerable region (Southeast Asia) due to pre-existing vulnerabilities and the weakened ability of Africa to adapt to the impacts of climate change. These results imply that there will be up to 70,000 additional deaths in Africa by 2030 as a result of climate change with malaria and diarrhea responsible for the largest proportions of these deaths (AfDB, 2011).

Furthermore, climate change induced floods and cyclones can lead to contamination of water supplies increasing the prevalence of vector borne diseases. The health of animals
and other plants that humans depend on is not spared as they are also impacted by climate change in ways that are still yet to be fully understood.

**Ecosystems and Biodiversity**

According to Swiss Re (2020), over half (55 per cent) of global GDP, equal to US$ 41.7 trillion, is dependent on high-functioning biodiversity and ecosystem services. Regrettably, ecosystems and the services they provide such as oxygen, water and protection from flooding are also affected by climate change and its impacts. Additionally, climate change is projected to decrease biodiversity and wetland regions leading to loss of soil and trees and the possible proliferation of zoonoses. The poor and vulnerable communities mostly depend on ecosystem services and are thus the most affected by the crisis.

If natural ecosystems continue to be degraded and habitat loss is left unchecked, human-wildlife conflict is inevitable and the experiences so far are that the odds are stacked against wildlife and ecosystems.

**Conflict and Migration**

The cocktail of climate change, its impacts and conflict are a reality in parts of Africa especially the Sahel region which faces recurrent floods and droughts further impoverishing communities. Climate change and its impacts are bringing additional burdens to existing challenges such as forced displacement of people, internal and international migration and conflict. Sea-level rise, wetter coasts and drier mid-continent areas will induce human migration as do flooding and landslides.

Decreasing rainfall leads to poor harvests which can prompt farmers to migrate to cities in search of better livelihoods. ‘The share of Africans living in urban areas is projected to grow from 36 per cent in 2010 to 50 per cent by 2030’ (World Bank, 2015). The rural-urban migration poses a challenge to the realization of objectives of this Strategy as climate change impacts exacerbate urbanisation; stretching the capacities of local authorities.

**Gender**

Natural disasters strike and affect the poor communities first and the hardest. Women are more exposed and vulnerable to climate change and its impacts as they are often poorer (70 percent of those living below the poverty line are women (Oxfam, 2008)), receive less
education, and are not involved in political and household decision-making processes that affect their lives (Habtezion, 2012).

It is evident that climate change impacts women and men differently largely due to the distinct poverty women face which is a result of the roles assigned by society to the different genders. In many African traditional societies, women’s responsibilities which demand most of their time include tending the fields, fetching environmental resources for sustenance - water, firewood, and other forest products, preparing food, cleaning and looking after children, the sick and the elderly. Women in sub-Saharan Africa collectively spend about 40 billion hours a year collecting water (United Nations Women, n.d.). Consequently, the roles assigned to women are more susceptible to the impacts of climate change which pose a risk of further increasing the existing gender disparities and deepening the vicious poverty trap that many women find themselves in. Men on the other hand tend to look after livestock and often relocate to the towns and cities in search of better opportunities whilst women mostly remain in the rural areas.

Women continue to be overlooked regarding climate change processes even though they are often in the best position to provide solutions due to their closeness to the environment and their knowledge and expertise in sustainable resource management at the household and community levels. The UNFCCC, in its Gender and Climate Change paper, reports that there is evidence that women’s participation at the political level has resulted in greater responsiveness to citizen’s needs and increased cooperation. Conversely, if policies are implemented without meaningful participation of women, inequalities can increase and effectiveness decreases. It is well established that most victims of natural and man-made disasters are women, children, the old and the physically challenged hence empowering women in any way including building their resilience has a stronger positive impact on the family and community. Therefore, access to education by women, young girls and adolescent females must be a priority in the fight against climate change, its impacts and poverty which, as discussed above, are interlinked.

**Youth**

In the next decade, up to 175 million children are likely to be affected every year by natural disasters brought about by climate change (United Nations Children’s Fund [UNICEF], 2007). Climate change and its impacts pose significant risks to the health and wellbeing of children. The upheavals caused by extreme weather events cause school disruptions,
social and political disorders, food insecurity, diseases and threats to water and sanitation services that impact the survival and welfare of children.

According to the United Nation’s Office of the Special Adviser on Africa, Africa has the largest concentration of young people in the world with 226 million youth aged between 15-24 years in 2015 representing nearly 20 per cent of Africa’s population and making up one fifth of the world’s youth population. This means that a large proportion of the African population is significantly vulnerable to climate change and its impacts. The ‘Africa We Want’ articulated in Agenda 2063 has a strong focus on children and the youth of today as they are the elders and leaders of tomorrow and the key to the survival of mankind. African youth are projected to experience the worst impacts of climate change. As a result, not only should their welfare and interests be provided for, but their voices should also be heard, and they should play key roles in the development and implementation of solutions to the challenges they face from now going into the future.

**Challenges**

The first challenge stems from the fact that not enough is known scientifically about climate change to make accurate site-specific forecasts about the changing climate especially in Africa. The regional and national climate information service centres are inadequately resourced to make accurate, timely and user-friendly weather forecasts.

The competition for limited resources between responding to climate change and other pressing developmental needs greatly paralyses progress as when disasters occur, resources and capacities must be diverted from the planned development actions into managing and recovering from the disasters. Yet, if a small proportion of the resources that are later on channelled into disaster relief and recovery is invested into effective early warning, preparedness and resilience building, the negative impacts and reconstruction costs will be greatly reduced making recovery quicker and enabling more efforts and resources to be channelled into development and prosperity.

The precarious situation of Africa makes it the object of global compassion and a recipient of much assistance from sympathisers. This has given rise to a proliferation of well-intentioned but often poorly coordinated donor-funded projects with weak sustainability and impact prospects. Some of these projects instead of complementing government programmes, may end up weakening the public sector capacity by offering better
conditions of service to short term project staff and experts. This discord further compounds the climate change crisis in Africa.

The low level of financial and technological capacity of many African countries and institutions makes for weaker home-grown solutions. It also bears the unfortunate side effect of promoting brain drain from the continent.

The need to reduce emissions by developed countries especially the binding goal of the European Union Member States and a growing number of countries across the globe to reach net zero emissions by 2050 is likely to result in the retiring of much of the older and high emission and polluting technologies some of which could be offloaded into Africa as the much needed foreign direct investment and/or due to its affordability by local investors. If unchecked, this will propel Africa into the high emission ranks as happened to China and other Asian countries in the last century. Furthermore, the reality is that if Africa continues using present development trajectories, meeting the aspirations of Agenda 2063 will result in a sharp increase in its GHG emissions.

Despite supporting mechanisms availed, the present reality on the ground is that Africa’s access to and share of these resources is still at a low level and requires a quantum boost if African countries are to achieve the targets they set in their NDCs to which they bound themselves. All African NDCs incorporated two targets: an unconditional target and a conditional one. The unconditional target will be met by African countries using their own resources (average 15 per cent). However, and more importantly, the conditional target (85 per cent), is dependent on financial support from the international community which is not always guaranteed (AfDB, 2018).

The argument for a coordinated continental response to climate change and its impacts has been well articulated and refined over the years. However, connecting the dots to get an effective continental programme is yet to be achieved. Much effort goes into developing strong regional positions that are merged into the approved unified African Position at the negotiations. However, this position is not a commitment and neither does it bind any country or Party.

All these challenges mean that instead of countries investing more into effective weather and climate information services, preparedness and resilience building, the little they have
which is never enough for disaster relief, tends to make them perpetually dependent on international relief agencies many of whom now have permanent presence on the continent.

**Opportunities**

The many challenges of the situation obtaining on the continent and the shortcomings of current measures being implemented must be adequately addressed and turned into opportunities and strengths. This is essential for the continent to re-brand and position itself for the transformation necessary to achieve the goals of Agenda 2063, the SDGs, the PA and the Sendai Framework on Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR).

There is an opportunity to craft a new African narrative away from that of a continent whose cup is half empty and requires empathy and salvation from outside its borders to one that embraces and is inspired by the spirit of Agenda 2063 of a vibrant Africa that drives and funds its own agenda in partnership with like-minded entities.

African leadership have an opportunity to evolve and entrench a new ethos and establish pan African networks for creating sustainable green jobs and livelihoods out of enhancing the continent’s natural capital, ecosystems and biodiversity.

The population demographics in Africa are an opportunity and a latent strength as most of the population is of school going age and hence can be equipped with the skills to become innovative and enterprising cadres for the task of delivering ‘The Africa We Want.’

The African continent possesses significant mitigation potential which if fully unlocked, can realise substantial resource inflows into the continent to fund adaptation and resilience building. The massive untapped potential for clean renewable energy on the continent is an advantage for its own low emission development. Africa is well positioned tap into the ever-rising global demand for clean energy especially green hydrogen that is set to become the fuel of the future as the technology develops and costs come down.

Climate smart sustainable land and water use, agricultural practices and ecosystem management can turn Africa from a hungry continent into a net food exporter in a short period of time.
The seemingly contradictory demands of combating climate change and development can be brought into alignment if the continent adopts an ‘all onboard’ approach regarding clean, low carbon growth and development strategies in the near term and evolving to net negative emission development in the long term to generate adequate resources for more ambitious climate actions. African countries urgently need to agree and implement a protocol setting minimum energy efficiency and emission standards for technologies to be imported or deployed locally.

Having adequate resources for climate action has been and continues to be a challenge. If Party and Non-Party stakeholders work together, there will be less duplication of efforts and efficient and effective resource mobilization and utilization.

**PART IV: CURRENT MEASURES TACKLING CLIMATE CHANGE IN AFRICA**

**AUC-DRR, NEPAD, CAHOSCC, ARC, GGWI**

The AUC has taken great and commendable steps in addressing climate change from participation in the COPs of the UNFCCC to mainstreaming climate change. The establishment of a joint AU, AfDB and UNECA on the Climate for Development in Africa is an important milestone for the AU in mainstreaming climate change in the development agenda of the continent through enhancement of capacities at both regional and national levels. The draft African strategy on climate change that was developed in 2014 provided a framework for integrated and coordinated mechanisms to give strategic direction to Member States and other stakeholders in addressing the challenges and opportunities associated with climate change on the continent with the overall objective of achieving climate-smart socio-economic development. It is this draft strategy that is up for renewal and the subject of this exercise.

**AUDA/NEPAD**

AUDA/NEPAD supports the implementation of the priorities of Agenda 2063 and the SDGs, promoting resilience, environmental protection and sustainable management of natural resources. A target of 25 million African farmers adopting climate smart agriculture by 2025 has been set. A NEPAD Climate Change Fund was established in 2014 to offer technical and financial assistance to AU Member States, RECs and institutions for programme and project implementation.
AMCEN
AMCEN is the permanent African Ministerial authority on the environment and sustainable development. UNEP, through its Africa Regional Office, serves as the Secretariat of AMCEN contributing to strengthening Africa’s participation and active involvement both in global negotiations and in international agreements on the environment including climate change. Common positions to guide African representatives in negotiations for legally binding international environmental agreements are approved by AMCEN.

AMCOMET
AMCOMET is a forum for African ministers to discuss policy matters in the development of meteorology and its applications to contribute to the socio-economic development of the continent. AMCOMET’s purpose is to correctly position weather and climate services in national and regional sustainable development, address the challenges and seize the opportunities in the development of adequate weather and climate services on the continent all the while advocating for sound decisions based on robust science.

African Risk Capacity
The African Risk Capacity is a specialized agency of the AU established to help African governments improve their capacities to plan, prepare for and respond to extreme weather events and natural disasters. The African Risk Capacity enables Member States to strengthen their disaster risk management and access rapid and predictable financing whenever disaster strikes. It supports participating Member States to access state-of-the-art early warning technology, contingency planning, risk pooling and transfer facilities.

The Great Green Wall
The Great Green Wall is an African-led flagship movement that aims to plant indigenous and commercial trees over 8,000 km across the entire width of the African continent from Senegal to Djibouti. It was started in 2007 and when complete in 2030 will be the largest man-made structure on the planet at a cost of US$8 billion contributed by the 21 Sahelian countries, the World Bank, the European Union and the United Nations (UN). The Great Green Wall will create a micro-climate that will increase local rainfall, recharge the water table, rejuvenate biodiversity and absorb 250 million tonnes of carbon dioxide annually and create 10 million green jobs. These are all life changing impacts in the Sahel region, which is home to 150 million people, two thirds of whom are below the age of 25. It is a
convincing and compelling confirmation that Africans can set an ambitious target and achieve it, overcoming much adversity to build a better future for all generations. The concept is being extended to the Kalahari and Namib deserts, drylands and other areas that are threatened by land degradation, deforestation or desertification.

**African Regional Standards Organisation**

The African Regional Standards Organisation was established by the AU and UNECA to harmonise African standards and conformity assessment procedures. It currently has 2 standards that centre around the environment, energy and natural resources; ARSO/THC09 Environmental Management and ARSO/THC10 Energy and Natural Resources. These standards can be adopted with a climate change lens to include infrastructure, health, food, water, transport, employment, education and agriculture to improve resilience, adaptation, mitigation, DRM, energy efficiency and emissions.

**African Water Facility**

The African Water Facility supports implementation of the Africa Water Vision 2025 which addresses climate change mitigation and adaptation and the foundations for the ‘Africa we Want’ through transformative decentralisation of demand-responsive institutional arrangements, promoting transparency and accountability along with market orientation.

**African Development Bank**

The Climate Risk Management and Adaptation Strategy of the AfDB aims to build climate-resilience into its investments through climate friendly development strategies and the climate proofing of investments through the Climate Safeguards System. In 2014, the Africa Climate Change Fund was created as a multi-donor trust fund administered by the AfDB to assist African countries access larger amounts of climate finance, mainstream climate change in their development plans, provide capacity building in green growth and pilot innovative adaptation projects.

**Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA)**

In 2008, COMESA unveiled its African Biocarbon Initiative at COP 14 in Poznan, Poland which recognised the primacy of adaptation and the significant mitigation potential of the African continent as its key contribution to the global discussions on the post KP regime. This Initiative was transformed into the Comprehensive Framework for COMESA Climate Change which set the stage for the mainstreaming of climate change into national and
regional development policies, strategies and action plans. In 2020, COMESA commenced the process of developing a new strategy on climate change, a carbon neutrality project and accreditation to the Global Climate Fund.

**Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD)**
IGAD countries are some of the most vulnerable to climate variability especially drought. IGAD’s climate change strategy focuses on DRM, climate resilient development and food security. To support improved DRM, IGAD set up the IGAD Climate Prediction and Application Centers (ICPAC), a set of capacity building programs providing climate information, prediction products and services, early warning and related applications. The IGAD Drought Disaster Resilience and Sustainability Initiative (IDDRSI) also aims to address the effects of drought and related shocks in a sustainable and holistic manner.

**Southern African Development Community (SADC)**
The SADC strategy aims to develop a common climate change and development agenda, supported by science and technology. Adaptation is a top priority for SADC while voluntary mitigation actions that promote regional integration and socio-economic development are encouraged. SADC aims to have a cross-sectoral single climate change strategy, around the vision and core values of SADC with all sectors participating and accountable.

**East African Community (EAC)**
The EAC Climate Change Policy is founded on three key pillars: adaptation, mitigation and research. To compliment the Policy, the East African Legislative Assembly passed the Regional Climate Change Bill that has been domesticated into the laws of its partner states – a first on the continent.

**Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS)**
The ECCAS Climate Change Strategy aims to strike a balance between disaster risk reduction (DRR) and sustainable development. The focus areas are; sustainable use and management of ecosystems; food security; integration of DRR into the health sector; protecting and strengthening of public facilities and physical infrastructure particularly schools, clinics, hospitals, water and power generation, communications and transport.
Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)
ECOWAS is seeking to use its new agricultural policy, ECOWAP 2015-2025, and other policy tools, to contribute to the acceleration of growth and transformation of agriculture in West Africa for shared prosperity and better living conditions for the people of the region.

Africa-Focused UN Agencies
All AU Member States are also members of the UN and its specialised agencies. Africa focused UN Agencies are an important source of capacity, technical expertise and partnerships through which Africa can have access to the vast knowledge, resource and experience base of the entire UN system. Africa should take full advantage of the support and services offered by these agencies.


Shortcomings of Current Measures
The climate change instruments adopted in Africa vary from policies, strategies, frameworks and action plans with some of the instruments being outdated and others in the process of being revised. This situation makes for a weak continental climate response change hence the need to streamline and where feasible, harmonize these instruments. This continental climate change Strategy developed in collaboration with all other stakeholders is a good start as RECs and countries can base their strategies on the continental one.

A glaring shortcoming of the measures being implemented on the continent is that despite all that has been and done, Africa continues to lag other regions in terms of its climate change response. This gap continues to widen. Reliance on external support for the continent's climate actions further exacerbates the crisis. The disproportionate impacts of climate change on youth and women are evident shortcomings that need to be addressed.

African ministers of environment noted ‘with concern that existing financial mechanisms are inadequate, complex and fragmented and have constrained African countries from
The reality of insufficient capacity development and resources at national, regional and continental levels to keep up with this dynamic issue must be recognised and resolutely addressed. The continent needs to build its capacity to cope with new evidence and knowledge that influences global discussions and agreements that bind all Parties. This puts an especially heavy burden on Africa that, with a few exceptions, finds itself perennially playing catch up.

While it is acknowledged that adaptation is a much more important response for Africa than mitigation, it must also be recognised that there are significant potential gains if the continent is to push adaptation together with unlocking its mitigation potential. As seen, adaptation in Africa is heavily dependent on development assistance which has the downside of entrenching a beggar perception of the continent and in turn compromising its ability to negotiate and speak as an equal in the global discussions. Mitigation on the other hand, can liberate Africa to a position where it can speak from a higher moral ground given its historically insignificant emissions and its large share of untapped mitigation potential which many developed countries desperately need.

A well-orchestrated and coordinated common African agenda on climate change with common targets, indicators and milestones is key for a stronger African climate change response and voice. Regarding negotiations, Africa could learn and take a cue from the EU that has a single regional NDC and the European Union Commission which was accorded Party status by its Member States and speaks for all during the negotiations. However, agreeing and sustaining a common position is much easier said than done as differences will always exist. It is thus imperative for the Common African Position to be strengthened and balanced to cater for the common interests of all starting with a few areas where convergence is easily attained. The areas and ambitions can then be raised as progress is made and proficiency gained. This is critical for the continent to be able to sit as an equal at the negotiating table.

Much of the current climate change efforts on the continent are often supply driven and donor funded. While some harmony can be seen at the national level, viewed from a continental level, they look like a patchwork of uncoordinated efforts. This is borne by the
observation that no two NDCs from Africa are similar. This is not a sustainable arrangement as the differences in focus and approaches makes harmonised actions more challenging. Besides, it weakens the ability of Africa to become self-reliant, drive and finance its own climate smart development - a fundamental principle of Agenda 2063.

Although the PA is not legally binding, if a signatory ratifies the Treaty, it officially agrees to hold itself responsible to meet its own targets and incorporate them into national laws. The flexibility of the PA has an advantage as countries commit to what they deem feasible relative to their national context. However, the voluntary nature of the NDC ambitions has been shown by the IPCC to be substantially insufficient to meet the emission reduction targets for less than 2°C average global temperature rise by 2100.

The Draft African Union Strategy on Climate Change was developed in 2014 and thus could not incorporate NDCs as they were created by the PA in 2015. The NDCs play a pivotal role in this new climate change Strategy as they are the mechanisms by which each country will table their national efforts and contributions to keep the increase in global temperature below 2°C. For this Strategy to be successful, weaknesses of current measures and the threats must be carefully addressed. With NDCs being updated or submitted by December 2020, it is strongly recommended that this Strategy be finalised based on the updated submissions.

PART V THE AFRICA CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY

The issues that this Strategy seeks to address have been discussed in the preceding sections and are aptly summarized in the IPCC predictions. Of prime concern are the weaknesses and threats of the PESTEL-SWOT analysis chiefly the lack of capacities at the national, regional and continental levels to develop and implement climate change actions; lack of coherence in national and regional strategies; inadequate partnerships; weak African participation in international fora including negotiations and inadequate resources among others. Addressing these issues is the rationale for the approaches of the Africa Climate Change Strategy.

Logical Framework- (needs to be redefined-looks like a proposal)
The vision to guide this Strategy is derived that of Agenda 2063 as: ‘to create a climate resilient Africa We Want.’ The mission is derived from that of the organisation (AU and
RCs) i.e. their activities within their mandates to achieve their ultimate goals. In the case of the African Union, the mission is: ‘To mitigate the impacts of climate change on the attainment of The Africa We Want.’

**Objectives**

The overall objective of the Africa Climate Change Strategy is contributing to the ‘Achievement of the Agenda 2063 Vision by building the resilience of the African continent to the impacts of climate change.’ The Strategy provides Africa and its stakeholders with a single source of strategic guidance that enables them to systematically build their capacity to address the climate-caused challenges that hinder the attainment of the Agenda 2063 Vision. Specifically, this Strategy aims to contribute to the attainment of SDG 13 ‘Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts,’ the PA goal of less than 2°C global temperature rise by the year 2100 and the seven targets of the SFDRR.

As observed, the African continent consists of diverse landscapes, ecosystems and weather systems which are impacted differently by climate change. The actions on the ground will be responsive to the specific impacts experienced there. However, when looked at from a higher perspective, common approaches and threads can be discerned that are universally applicable irrespective of the specific situations and impacts on the ground. These constitute the pillars of the Africa Climate Change Strategy.

A flexible, less prescriptive and easier to apply strategy is called for at this stage as it has the best chances of success under the circumstances. The Strategy is a set of principles and approaches whose goal is to systematically build the capacity to effectively counter the negative consequences of climate change, leverage resources and opportunities to facilitate the attainment of the Agenda 2063 Vision. The flexibility of the Strategy allows those that can or wish to move faster to do so while targeted support can be provided to resolve challenges and accelerate the progress of the group as a whole.

As demanded by the Declaration of Agenda 2063, the Strategy must be owned and driven by the stakeholders and partners it addresses i.e. it must be a people-driven approach. This is best achieved through intensive consultations leading to the validation and approval of the Africa Climate Change Strategy.

Five intermediate outcomes or results and activities are proposed. These are:
Result 1: Effective institutional capacities to implement climate change strategies

Result 2: Climate change strategies are streamlined

Result 3: Africa speaks with one voice

Result 4: Resilience built, and vulnerability reduced

Result 5: Investments into climate related areas

Result 6: Increased access to finance and technology

The activities to achieve these results are detailed below.

**Result 1: Effective Institutional Capacities to Implement Climate Change Strategies**

**Activity 1.1 Institutional Set-Up, Development and Strengthening**

Right at the outset, it is critical to determine the institutional structures, mandates and capacities that are necessary for successfully driving the Strategy to meet the objectives. These structures and capacities must be closely linked and networked for optimal effectiveness. They are at the political, governance, policy, economic, social and technical levels and should include all stakeholders.

At the continental level, the Pan African Parliament, AUC, ECOSOCC, AUDA, AfDB, and continental agencies are established structures with mandates and responsibilities given by their respective policy organs including overseeing and supporting the development and implementation of strategies and programmes for the attainment of *The Africa We Want*. These structures, together with continental NGOs develop and implement their own programmes in close coordination with the RECs and other regional entities. This Strategy sets out the approaches that these structures need to adopt and actively pursue in their activities in support of the Africa Climate Change Strategy. The capacities of these structures must be strengthened with adequate staff and resources to carry out their mandates effectively and sustainably.

Regional level structures include the REC Secretariats, agencies, financial institutions, parliaments and CSOs whose mandates are to coordinate regional interventions in close collaboration with the continental and national players. These regional structures and their programmes should focus on the specific threats and situations on the ground in their areas and enhance their capacities in a sustainable way. A structured coordination arrangement from the continental, regional and national perspectives needs to be
instituted and operationalized, led by the AUC with the support of continental, regional and national entities. Likewise, these structures must be capacitated by enhancing their competencies and effectiveness in carrying out their mandates regarding climate change.

National structures include government ministries, parliaments, financial, technical and scientific institutions, local government authorities, CSOs and business should all work in unison within the regional and continental strategies. These national structures must be re-focused and strengthened to be able to deliver on national goals and commitments while contributing to the realisation of Agenda 2063, the SDGs, the SFDRR and the PA targets. These structures also need to be adequately capacitated to undertake their responsibilities in a sustainable manner.

There are other institutions that are important for the success of the Africa Climate Change Strategy. These include the UN Africa-focused agencies previously mentioned, Non-Party stakeholders, CSOs, women, youth and apex business organisations. These bring on board technical and human capacity and resources for climate action. Engaging Party and Non-Party stakeholders to work together reduces duplication of efforts and enhances capacity utilization and resource mobilization.

Depending on the circumstances and needs, it may be necessary to establish other structures to address gaps as necessary and feasible. It is left to its institution to determine the needs and implement the solutions.

**Activity 1.2 Capacity Building**

Due to the evolving nature of climate change and the uncertainty surrounding it, sustained capacity building for institutions and individuals is imperative. This entails continuous needs assessments, awareness raising, professional training, knowledge and information sharing and management. CSOs, NGOs, African institutions and specialists have built up a vast body of knowledge and experience over the years that can be tapped into and where successful, relevant elements can be gleaned, replicated and scaled up. In line with ‘The Africa We Want,’ this Strategy acknowledges the need for the exchange of knowledge and expertise between countries on the continent.

Adopting deliberate policies to make use of local services and experts is an effective way to stimulate self-reliance and further capacity building to meet the evolving needs. It also
increases the circulation of resources among Africans leading to dynamic self-propelling development and resilient building capabilities on the continent. Where no expertise exists on the continent, such is to be procured from outside with the intention of localizing it.

**Activity 1.2.1 Development of Climate Change Information**

Despite covering a fifth of the world's total land area, Africa has the least developed weather and climate land-based observation network of all continents, and one that is in a deteriorating state, amounting to only 1/8 of the minimum density required by the World Meteorological Organization (AMCOMET, 2019). Inadequate investment in climate information services across the continent has resulted in poorly capacitated weather and climate information services. According to UNECA (2011), the situation of climate data and observation networks on the continent is poor with the least coverage over rural areas, many stations do not operate and data from some of the operating stations is not fed into the international system. The quality of data is still poor with gaps of missing data and in some cases, there are inefficient quality control systems. There have been some efforts to reduce these problems through data rescue and filling gaps using remotely observed data from satellites and other sources. It is critically important that Africa’s observation networks, data quality management systems and archival systems make available enough of the required climate data, from many parts, and share it widely with other stakeholders. Most services have a stagnant pool of human and financial resources, and obsolete technologies limiting their capabilities to produce the best services needed by policy makers and other decision-makers.

The benefits of investing in the capacitation of institutions that generate and apply climate information far outweigh the costs. In this regard, the World Bank estimated that investment of about US$ 500 million in hydrometeorological capacity for improved weather, climate, and water observation and forecasting could lead to up to US$ 30 billion per year increase in global productivity and US$ 2 billion per year in reduced asset losses (Hallegatte, 2012).

Availability of quality, timely and user-friendly climate information for all is at the core of combating climate change. According to the WMO (2020) the 2019 Africa State of the Climate report, ‘women do not have access to weather and climate services; it is important that all individuals have access to these services in order to enhance their individual resilience and adaptive capacity.’
The Integrated Strategy on Meteorology (Weather and Climate Services) that was validated by Member States and adopted by AMCOMET and awaits to be presented for endorsement by the STC in 2021 has five strategic pillars to guide this sub-activity:

SP1: Increased political support and recognition of NMHSs and related WMO Regional Institutions in Africa at both regional and continental levels

SP2: Improved observational networks, data access and processing

SP3: Enhanced capacities for the production and delivery of tailored weather, water and climate services for sustainable development

SP4: Research & Development and Training

SP5: Strengthened partnerships with relevant institutions and private sector

**Activity 1.3 Education and Training**

The educational system in Africa has worked well to get the continent to where it is today on the development trajectory. However, as noted in the IPCC Special Report on the impacts of global warming of 1.5°C, the institutional arrangements in Africa cannot effectively coordinate the initiatives that need to be implemented. The educational system as one such institution, therefore, needs to be revised and re-focused so that it serves the present and evolving needs for Africa to achieve the Agenda 2063 and PA goals. Factoring the issues discussed in this Strategy into the educational systems is a sure way of generating a high level of awareness and knowledge in the general population. As Africa is still building new institutions, the educational system can be modified to incorporate climate change related issues.

As different sectors compete for the limited resources, educational institutions in Africa must be able to argue credibly that they are making unique, relevant, and high-quality contributions to Africans and their communities and the world.

An educational system with a climate change lens should be coupled with strong and sustained public awareness campaigns and mainstreaming into all programmes of governments and other stakeholders. Improved coordination of curriculum development about global issues such as climate change and climate action which would benefit all African Member States is required and the AUC, RECs and their agencies should play a key role in this regard. Documentation and integration of indigenous knowledge into the educational systems and supporting research for its further enhancement entrenches this wealth of knowledge into the climate response measures. The indigenous knowledge
must be packaged, documented and factored into the educational systems, so it is readily available to future generations and is never lost. If done diligently, well over 60 per cent of the population will have gone through this new educational system within a generation thereby creating a large pool of young cadres for tackling these challenges more effectively and with a higher assurance of success.

Africa needs to educate and train climate change scientists and specialists for Africa. At the higher education level, deliberate educational policies must be implemented to provide courses on climate change, environment, sustainability, the circular economy and other related subject areas.

**Activity 1.4 Research and Development**

Researching for this Strategy has shown that information and statistics on climate change in Africa are not always readily accessible and that when the data is available, it is often from outside the continent. More structured and coordinated information on climate change and climate action is required for factoring into the educational curricula and communications. Many times, policies and decisions are made without reference to the national statistical agencies to formally organize collection, collation and verification of the needed statistics.

Today’s era of access to increasingly affordable information communication technologies opens ‘big data’ opportunities for Africa through the development of crowdsourcing and community engagement in local data collection and verification, particularly regarding weather forecasts. Africa can adopt a plethora of knowledge, technology and capacity from beyond its boundaries for quick responses to climate change. However, for sustainability, effectiveness, efficiency and job creation, Africa must develop its own strong and dynamic technological capability. African solutions work best for solving African problems. Indigenous knowledge and practices backed by science should be the cornerstone of this technological capability.

**Activity 1.5 Gender and climate change**

There is need to build capacity for gender disaggregated data and statistics on climate change and to conduct gender-focused vulnerability and risk assessments to establish actions needed for resilient gender equity.
It is important to fashion new narrative on women, environment and climate change to stimulate their participation. This narrative builds on the advantage of proximity of women to, their access and dependence on ecological resources which puts them in pole position to play major roles in protecting their ecosystems and grow the natural capital therein.

As the most vulnerable in society, their superior numbers and roles, women must be given commensurate roles in national, regional and continental discussions and decision-making processes.

Climate change, gender and environmental studies should be introduced in school curricula.

**Activity 1.6 Visibility and Communications**

A well thought through and up-to-date communication and visibility strategy and plan of action is required for the Africa Climate Change Strategy. It should be coordinated by the AUC supported by the RECs and their agencies. It has been shown that the youth are already generally better informed about climate change and the relevant agencies need to capitalize on this. Acting on climate change should be made everyone’s business as all are affected by it.

The impacts, risks and implications of climate change must be effectively articulated and communicated and appropriate information sharing programmes through various media platforms should be developed for target audiences and stakeholders. Identifying, documenting and disseminating best practices and success stories is essential to facilitate exchange of knowledge and experiences between regions, countries and communities.

**Result 2: Regional and National Climate Change Strategies are Streamlined**

An opportunity exists, through this Strategy, to fortify and enhance the robustness of climate action in Africa by integrating the approaches of different African stakeholders into a seamless continental strategy in conformity with the decisions of the RECs and AU Heads of State that Africa should speak with one voice and join hands in combating climate change and building resilience. This is best achieved if strategies and approaches are streamlined at the continental, regional and national levels with all pulling in the same direction.
**Activity 2.1 Review of Existing Strategies**
An assessment of the climate change policies, frameworks, strategies inter alia obtaining on the continent reveals that many of them are outdated. The opportunity thus exists for RECs, Member States to review and revise their instruments and NDCs and in so doing, streamline them with the Africa Climate Change Strategy. An opportunity presents itself to kick start this through the consultations, validation and approval processes of the continental, regional and national strategies. This will be sustained through regular co-ordination processes led by the AUC and supported by the RECs. The continental strategies and frameworks should inform, speak to and be flexible enough to accommodate specificities at the regional and national levels.

**Activity 2.2 Streamlined, Inclusive Planning and Design**
Agenda 2063 calls for ownership of continental programmes by the people of Africa and her Diaspora. It is essential that the planning and design phases are carried out with the full, prior informed knowledge and active participation of all concerned stakeholders.

It is important to establish baselines at the start of any intervention by involving the people concerned. This enables the setting up of realistic targets, indicators and milestones. National targets should inform the regional targets which in turn inform the continental targets. This ensures that the targets are streamlined making for easier tracking and monitoring and evaluation (M&E). Advocacy, communication and visibility should be factored into the design of the intervention with everyone playing their role.

**Activity 2.3 Multi-Stakeholder Partnership and Engagement**
Agenda 2063 recognizes the crucial importance of smart win-win partnerships for the achievement of its goals and targets. To deal with the issue of the proliferation of well-intentioned but often poorly coordinated efforts, it is suggested to bring together the combined expertise and resources of the different stakeholders to pursue a unified programme to create greater synergy and accelerate the achievement of results for less overall cost. Effective partnerships at all levels including CSOs, NGOs, communities, the media, arts and culture, sports, public and private champions and exhibitions are essential to raise the level of awareness and knowledge.

Partnerships enable the pooling of resources and capacities for the achievement of agreed goals. Participatory planning with the stakeholders and partners enables each to
identify and focus on their core mandate areas where they are best placed to more effectively and efficiently support implementation. Areas with no takers define the targets for resource mobilization and capacity development.

**Result 3: Africa Speaks with One Voice**

The wise African saying: ‘if you want to go fast, go alone: but if you want to go far, go with others’ aptly captures the key message in this Strategy. The push and pull of going together increases the pace of the ones moving slowly while giving room for those that wish to accelerate towards Agenda 2063 goals to do so. Moving together is best for countries and communities facing similar challenges as it is easier to learn from and emulate each other. Sharing and comparing stimulates friendly competition towards the goal thus quickening the pace of the group.

**Activity 3.1 Addressing the Development Gap**

Over the years, much support has been rendered to the African continent and its people by well-wishers from within and beyond the continent and no doubt, this support has led to a material improvement in the welfare of Africans as measured by standard development indicators. While this is welcome and greatly appreciated, the reality is that the gap in the standard of living between Africans and citizens of other regions of the world is widening. The other realities are that climate change is here and is not going to go away any time soon and it is a serious obstacle to the continent’s development as it exacerbates the underlying vulnerabilities of the African population.

Other regions of the world are also similarly impacted by climate change, however, due to their high levels of adaptive capacity and resilience, they can better resist the effects, quickly rebound and innovate to achieve ever higher levels of development despite the setbacks. The impetus and resources for Africa to make the quantum leap required to close the widening development gap and attain the level of climate resilience to sustainably deliver the ‘Africa We Want’ can only, and must be mobilised, marshalled and focused by the Africans themselves relying on their own resources. The support from outside the continent while welcome, should complement what the Africans are doing for themselves. This is the cornerstone of Agenda 2063 and by extension, the Africa Climate Change Strategy.
The African continent remains the richest on the planet in terms of natural capital. This is despite centuries of exploitation for the benefit of the rest of the world. This natural capital, the growing youthful population, a large diaspora and a mighty Pan African spirit are the means that Africa has with which to fight poverty and climate change and its impacts. The need for Africa to be allowed to enjoy fairer, more equitable prices for her materials that have been and continue to build the wealth of other nations on the planet whilst Africa is mired in abject poverty cannot be overemphasized.

With 55 Member States, 8 RECs, continental and regional agencies and institutions and cognisant of the fact that climate change knows no national boundaries, it is imperative that the African continent and its stakeholders pursue streamlined approaches in jointly addressing the development gap, enhance adaptation and mitigation response and build resilience to climate change.

It is recognised that African countries and regions are at different levels of development, have different capacities and face different challenges. Thus, a flexible approach must be in-built to allow each of the entities addressed in this Strategy to set their own targets and determine the pace at which they will converge with agreed continental goals and targets. That way, the differences cease to be obstacles to unity and the continent can move forward in unison to close the development gap.

Activity 3.2 Building Negotiation Capacity

A united African voice at the global table is a well proven strategy for the collective to attain advantageous outcomes in negotiations than each country can obtain on its own. This is how the AGN, LDCs, SIDS and other groupings of weaker entities managed to get favourable provisions in the PA. Arriving at the global Agreement was the relatively easier part. The implementation of the PA and realising the 2°C global temperature goal is a lot more challenging for all Parties. This will likely result in increased pressure on Africa and hence the need for deeper African unity. Working together generates synergy and economies of scale while friendly competition increases the pace of progress.

A unified African Position at the UNFCCC must be arrived at from a synthesis of the commitments made in the updated NDCs to be submitted by December 2020. As implementation progresses, conditions change, countries update and increase the ambition of their NDCs, the Position should be adjusted accordingly so that Africa always
has its best foot forward. Not only should this Position guide the negotiations, it must be internalised and guide the climate actions by all down to the individual. In addition, the Position must be supported by robust research and verified facts that can withstand international scrutiny.

Lack of resources and weak capacities provide for a robust rationale that Africa should literally and figuratively speak with one voice at all levels of the negotiations guided by the approved unified African Position. Such an approach enables the pooling of resources and expertise to cover and represent African interests across all tracks of the negotiations which increases the prospects of better outcomes for the continent.

A precedent has already been set whereby the Chairperson of CAHOSCC speaks for the continent at Summit level. This should cascade to the Ministerial and technical levels. Furthermore, the AUC should initiate consultations with its Member States and the UNFCCC for the Commission to be accorded Party status at the UNFCCC just as the European Union Commission is a Party and speaks on behalf of the European Union.

As negotiations progress, evidence gathers, and new frontiers emerge requiring more specialisations and manpower. The experts needed to deliver the right outcomes for Africa need to be anchored in the relevant academic fundamentals, research, practical training and experience in actual negotiations.

**Activity 3.2.1. Training Negotiators**

Training of negotiators not only on how to negotiate but for them to understand the hazards, to have information on the changes in terms of intensity, frequency and time of emergence, their impacts, the adaptation actions to be taken to contain their impacts and reduce the risk. Much experience has been gained over the years in all the aspects of the negotiations and there is an increasing number of subject matter experts. There is an increasing number of new entrants into the negotiations from different specialisations. It is important that all stakeholders and interests are well represented at the negotiating table with adequate technical, scientific and legal backstopping.
Result 4: Resilience Built; Vulnerability Reduced

Activity 4.1 Prioritizing Adaptation (to be revised)

‘Human and natural systems have a capacity to cope with adverse circumstances but, with continuing climate change, adaptation will be needed to maintain this capacity’ (IPCC, 2012). In order to survive, Africa must adapt to climate change, but how can Africans adapt to impacts that they have relatively little knowledge about? Therefore, there is a need for the quantification of the hazards, changes and their related impacts which is inextricably tied to the need to build the capacity of weather and climate information services.

The AfDB (2011) concludes that adaptation costs in Africa are in the region of US$ 20-30 billion per annum over the next 10 to 20 years and that of approximately $350 million of adaptation funding approved for spending in Africa, only $130 million has been disbursed. This highlights the gravity of Africa’s ‘financial adaptation gap’ and the need for Africa to analyze the reason behind the significant gap between funds pledged and funds disbursed in order to find solutions to this gap. It is also imperative for African nations to leverage the common but differentiated responsibility principle raised by the KP to encourage and increase sustained funding to meet Africa’s adaptation needs. (the text looks old, we currently have adaptation funds, GCF, to check the most recent text.)

Adaptation is closely linked with poverty and development and this linkage is critical to reducing vulnerability to climate change. Increasing general and targeted development of African countries will simultaneously strengthen their ability to adapt to climate change by reducing vulnerability and increasing resilience. The need to mainstream adaptation into policies and investment planning is evident, coupled with a multi-sectoral approach.

Activity 4.2 Disaster Risk Reduction

The AU Programme of Action for the Implementation of the SFDRR is the blueprint that informs activities in this regard. The plan of action provides the priorities and actions to be undertaken by all stakeholders to strengthen resilience to disaster risks at continental, regional, national and local levels. Investing in climate information services as described in Result 1 has co-benefits that greatly benefit DRR and other sectors.

The natural and relatively easier course of action is to adapt to climate-induced disasters such as floods, cyclones and rising sea levels that cause loss of many lives and irreparable damage to infrastructure, settlements and landscapes. A delicate balance exists between
human resilience and the integrity of ecosystems, hence people-centric concepts and nature-based solutions such as ecosystem-based DRR should be prioritized to increase resilience and reduce the vulnerability of communities and the environment to climate change. The International Union for Conservation of Nature (n.d.), defines Eco-DRR as the sustainable management, conservation and restoration of ecosystems to provide services that reduce disaster risk by mitigating hazards and increasing livelihood resilience. Effective Eco-DRR comes about through paying attention to the landscape in which the risks need to be reduced and the role the ecosystem plays in achieving this.

**Activity 4.3**  Set Up a Continental Early Warning System (-Jolly, DRR, and ACMAD to review)

A continental Multi-Hazard All Stakeholder Early Warning and Response System that integrates the existing continental, regional and national climate information systems and brings together all the investments, capacity and expertise is the cornerstone of this endeavor. Implementation of a continental early warning system can capacitate decision making of governments and communities to anticipate weather variability, plan and adjust action plans and budgets to reduce potential losses and damages. The early warning system can also support resilience building in other climate sensitive sectors such as health, agriculture and food security.

Partnerships with global and other international climate information systems open the door for newer technology, data, and information. Implementation of this system has increased disaster preparedness leading to a marked reduction in loss and damage due to the many disasters that region faces.

It has been conservatively estimated that upgrading all hydrometeorological information production and early-warning capacity in developing countries would save an average of 23,000 lives annually and would provide up to US$30 billion per year in additional economic benefits related to disaster reduction (Hallegatte, 2012). The implementation of early action beyond disaster preparedness based on forecasts can save lives and ensure more efficient use of scant resources. A 24-hour warning of a coming storm can cut the ensuing damage by 30 per cent. Spending US$800 million on early warning systems in developing countries could avoid losses of up to US$16 billion per year (PreventionWeb, n.d.).
Activity 4.4  
Capacitate Regional Climate Centres - (to be sent to them for review through Jolly)

On the African continent, the concept of Regional Climate Centers (RCCs) was developed to bridge the gap between climate information at the global and national levels. Up to date weather, water and climate services require high computing power, modelling and specialized expertise that not all countries have. The RCCs offer opportunities for networking, learning, exchanging and pooling national capacities to provide the weather, water and climate services to meet national needs. There are five designated RCCs:
1. African Centre for Meteorological Applications for Development (ACMAD)
2. Agriculture, Hydrology and Meteorology (AGRHYMET)
3. IGAD Climate Prediction and Applications Centre (ICPAC)
4. Climate Application and Prediction Centre for Central Africa (CAPC-CA)
5. SADC Climate Services Centre (SADC-CSC)

These RCCs need to be capacitated and networked into an integral component of the continental early warning system. The ability to forecast the likely impacts of climate change makes it possible to revisit the physical plans to avoid or minimize the losses and damages. It will also inform the appropriate agricultural systems to adopt for food and livelihoods security as well as the location and design standards for infrastructure and settlements. Undoubtedly, weather, water and climate services play an integral part towards climate change governance, however, this information must be accessible, understandable and actionable for it to be put to good use.

Activity 4.5  
Implementation of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage  (To be revised, KAI, )

Africa has called for the full implementation of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with climate change impacts, including the provisions of Article 8 of the PA and that African countries should be supported to deal with loss and damage associated with floods, droughts, cyclones and other disasters. Conducive policies and incentives at the national and regional levels are key to engaging more national and regional insurance companies to roll out their products and services to cover losses and damages suffered by most of the poor people of Africa.

At the national level, African governments need to allocate enough resources to DRR programmes, particularly at the local government level and mobilize both local and
international financial and technical support to effectively deal with natural disasters and to recover from these in a sustainable manner. As previously stated, investing in climate information services has co-benefits that greatly benefit DRR and inevitably reduce loss and damage. An abundance of knowledge is already available at the national and local levels (including CSOs/NGOs) but which needs to be unlocked and capitalized on.

**Activity 4.6 Build Resilience (to be merged with 4.2, KAI)**

Building resilience of livelihoods, food, water and energy supplies, infrastructure and settlements to the anticipated impacts of climate change is a pre-requisite for the developments necessary to attain the ‘The Africa We Want.’ Otherwise scarce resources will continually be diverted to deal with effects of recurring disasters, repairing damaged infrastructure and settlements each time disasters strike. If resilience is not built, much of poor Africa will be trapped in a vicious cycle of poverty and suffering. Resilience strategies and action plans have been developed by RECs, some countries, cities and other stakeholders. As with climate change and DRR strategies, a continental resilience building strategy that integrates and builds on what is already going on is recommended to guide continental, regional, national and other stakeholders in their resilience building efforts. The aim is to build high levels of awareness and knowledge to better understand these issues across the entire African population.

As observed, much of Africa is still grappling with the provision of basic needs such as shelter, food, water, energy and health services. The availability and security of these basics are threatened by climate change. Dealing with these challenges is a high priority in the NDCs of African countries and forms the backbone of the support rendered to the Member States by the RECs and others guided by the appropriate continental sectoral frameworks.

**Activity 4.7 Integrating DRR, Climate Change and Ecosystem Management**

(To review and to integrate/merge with ECO-DRR,-This section might go to NBS section)

Climate change is already modifying the frequency and intensity of many weather-related hazards as well as steadily increasing vulnerability and eroding the resilience of exposed populations. This is clearly witnessed by the increasing frequency and intensity of droughts and floods on the continent and the attendant losses and damages. On the other hand, a well-managed natural environment supports livelihoods and economies by
delivering services in the form of fresh water supplies, timber, fisheries products and soil protection, to name just a few. These provide an important resource base for vulnerable communities, act as a buffer against hazards allowing them to cope in times of crisis and to actively adapt to climate change. A degraded ecosystem results in a substantial increase in vulnerability as a result of the loss of critical ecosystem services. Therefore, acknowledging and understanding the deep interdependence between climate change and ecosystem degradation and their influence in changing the nature, behaviour and patterns of disaster risks is at the core of bringing a lasting change and attaining the goals of Agenda 2063. This interdependence calls for an integrated approach to DRR, climate change adaptation and ecosystem management and restoration where possible to enhance synergy, efficiency and effectiveness.

The SFDRR calls for the involvement of the private sector as businesses are also affected by disasters and as entities, they also need to adapt to the impacts of climate change. Climate change has a domino effect on businesses and business continuity which in turn affects economies, workforces, customers and suppliers, disrupting the well-being and social fabric of communities. As a result, private sector engagement vis a vis climate change is in the sector’s own interest and it is strongly encouraged that the sector contributes resources, capacity building and knowledge to protect society and their business interests.

**Result 5: Investments into Climate Related Areas**

It is clear from the foregoing that the high levels of poverty and vulnerability and low adaptive capacities in Africa are generally a result of little or no investments in building resilience to the impacts of climate change. Winning the war against climate change and creating enough sustainable green jobs for the burgeoning African youths will be almost impossible without a quantum leap in investments in climate related areas. The low levels of economic diversification and value addition also exacerbate vulnerabilities in many countries. For ownership and sustainability, the investments are to be made by the government/public sector, private sector, communities and individuals. Investments from beyond the continent are welcome with non-debt financing preferred as many countries and businesses are mired in vicious debt traps.
Activity 5.1 Increase Public Sector Investments

Public sector finances should be focused on enablers of investments such as climate resilient infrastructure and settlements; food, water and energy security; health and sanitation, education and essential investments not attractive for private capital. Potential income streams for increasing public resources for such investments are discussed under Result 6.

Activity 5.2 Facilitate Private Investments

There are many entrepreneurs that are operating lucrative businesses in renewable energy, energy efficiency and conservation, waste recycling and others for profit and not necessarily as climate change adaptation and mitigation or NDC interventions. Assessing and quantifying these is a major step towards achieving NDC targets. Besides, the emission reductions can be sold to generate additional income. This should be coupled with incentives and other enabling instruments to bring about a self-sustaining green/circular economy, sustainable wealth and jobs creation.

There is practically no limit to profit-seeking private capital. Thus, crafting new profit opportunities for private capital from investments that address climate change opens the doors to this great source of capital. There are also areas where win-win private-private and private-public partnerships bringing together the expertise and resources can accelerate achievement of results and enhance the uptake of green investments to create more wealth and jobs at the same time contributing to the PA goals. Efforts should not be spared in nurturing a strong African entrepreneurial sector as it is the best way to partner with international capital and technology.

More business opportunities exist for the private sector (including medium, small and enterprises) in mitigation than in adaptation. An enabling investment regime, policies, incentives and risk mitigation need to be put in place to facilitate this. Strong capable institutions, access to technology, finance and markets and availability of required skills are the other pre-requisites. Governments should be encouraged to redirect subsidies and other incentives to get more private sector participation.

Particular attention should be paid to avoid falling prey to cheap used technology discarded from wealthier economies on account of their emissions. Africa should adopt and enforce standards to curtail this from happening. It also applies to new products that
are inefficient or have short lifespans as this generates significant quantities of waste some of which is toxic.

**Activity 5.3 Facilitate Environmentally Responsible Trade**
The regional and continental integration instruments (Free Trade Areas, Customs Unions, Monetary Unions, Commissions, joint management areas) should mainstream climate change, promote and give more incentives for environmentally friendly goods, services and technologies; monitor and manage the emissions of production and trade value chains.

The AUC and RECs should, together with the Member States, effectively participate and domesticate within their Free Trade Areas the provisions of the Environmental Goods Agreement under the World Trade Organisation.

**Activity 5.4 Innovation and Entrepreneurship Development**
Innovation and entrepreneurship are critical for sustainable investments in climate related areas and thus must be promoted and boosted through the educational system, training and capacity building programmes. This is central to creating a self-propelling dynamic entrepreneurship class that is anchored on African values and technological capacity – i.e. that which Africans can do by themselves for themselves with what they have and infusing external elements where appropriate and applicable.

There are successful innovation and entrepreneurship development institutions with programmes targeting small businesses, youth, women and other groups in Africa that should be re-focused to address the challenges of project development and investment mobilisation, and in the process create new and sustainable green business opportunities.

**Activity 5.5 Support Medium to Small Enterprise Development**
Much of business in most African countries is informal. Training and capacitating these vulnerable businesses to migrate from informal to formal and green enterprises will create more economic opportunities for them and their economies and contribute towards jobs and government revenues.

**Result 6: Increased Access to Finance and Technology**
It is apparent that to successfully address the issues raised in this Strategy requires resources and capacities far beyond what the actors in the countries, regions and the continent have been able to mobilise thus far. Already, more than three quarters of the resources needed to fund the NDCs submitted by African countries is expected to come from beyond the continent. With this level of dependence, it will be a challenge to even consider increasing the ambition of African NDCs that are expected to be submitted in 2025. Thus, innovative mobilisation of adequate investments for climate actions at national, regional and continental levels is the only viable option.

Facilitating access by African countries to finance from different sources, in particular public finance, is critical as a means of closing the financing gap. The current estimate of the finance gap for implementing the full scope of African NDCs is US$3 trillion (AMCEN President, 2020). African countries have already contributed an estimated 20 per cent of the annual cost of adaptation from their own budgets. Such contributions impact the availability of resources for other sectors like education, health and poverty reduction. This financing gap can be bridged if concerted efforts are made to think outside the box and come up with innovative ways to ensure additional financial flows to fully implement the NDCs. Some examples of proposed innovative mobilisation of funds are discussed below.

**Activity 6.1 Promote Climate Sensitive Public Sector Financing**

Government is by far the biggest spender in many African countries. It therefore follows that mainstreaming climate change into all national budget lines will have the largest impact on climate action. Public investment mobilization and management must be climate sensitive and promote resilience.

The commitments made in the NDCs must be turned into concrete action by deliberately allocating budgetary resources into adaptation actions and re-direction of subsidies and incentives to stimulate mitigation and low carbon development. At the same time, consideration should be given to broadening the base for carbon emission taxes to finance green investments. The ‘polluter pays’ principle should be extended and applied to local extraction and processing of wasting assets like minerals and fossil fuels including renewable but GHG emitting energy sources such as wood, biomass and biofuels.
The oversight and governance structures including Non-State Actors described above have essential roles to play to ensure equity in the governance of these resources so that revenues collected are utilized for the intended purposes.

**Activity 6.1.1** Financing AU and REC Secretariats

The situation of the Secretariats of the AU and RECs is like that of the countries with a significant proportion of resources for their climate change programmes provided by donors. As these Secretariats are funded from the public purse, the same principles described above regarding climate sensitive public sector financing equally apply to financing the climate change programmes of these Secretariats. Each entity must ensure that from the contributions made by its Member States to the regular budget, provision is made to adequately support and capacitate the internal structures described in Result 1 Activity 1.1. This will enable them to elaborate and successfully drive the implementation of their climate change programmes as called for in Agenda 2063. Provisions should also be made in the budget to mainstream climate change into all the programmes supported by the Secretariats. It is critical that these key programmatic functions are funded from the recurrent core budgets of the Secretariats for ownership, control and sustainability. Extra-budgetary resources should be reserved for specific projects. There are several ways to mobilise extra-budgetary resources:

1. Engaging donors and partners to ensure that the support they provide is aligned to priority projects of the Strategy
2. Aspects of the climate programmes that make commercial sense can be hived off to autonomous, self-financing specialised agencies and mechanisms.
3. The Secretariats should become repositories of organised data, information, knowledge and expertise for which access fees can be charged.
4. Some Secretariats and/or their agencies are in the process of accreditation to funding mechanisms like the GCF. This will expand their financial resource base when they successfully mobilise funding to implement projects.
5. Facilitating carbon trading is another potential source of funding for the Secretariats or their agencies.

**Activity 6.2** Expand and Diversify Existing Financial Services

There is need to broaden the scope of existing development and investment financial institutions to mainstream climate change and give priority to projects that also build
climate resilience and/or contribute to the attainment of the country’s NDCs, the PA and Agenda 2063 goals. Involvement and partnership with the public sector to enact conducive policies and incentives is essential to encourage this shift.

Weather and risk indexed micro-insurance and micro-finance services need to be set in motion to cover more vulnerable people and assist them to begin the recovery process from climate change induced loss and damage as opposed to depending solely on government and relief agencies. For the purposes of this Strategy, the African Risk Capacity is well positioned to spearhead this in collaboration with the public and private insurance and re-insurance entities. Governments should support such developments by enacting a more enabling environment and offering incentives for small players to partner with the large corporates to increase coverage. Building resilience and reducing disaster risks can save governments a lot of resources that can then be channeled into sustainable development while extending micro finance and insurance services to the vulnerable cushions them and speeds up their recovery in the event of disasters.

The AU, RECs, their agencies and other stakeholders should factor advocacy, capacity building and facilitation of this in the support they render to the countries to encourage the changes required in addition to organizing dedicated consultative and exchange sessions for key enablers of the financial services sector.

**Activity 6.3 Monitor Official Development Assistance**

A significant number of donors continue to support Africa at the local, national, regional and continental levels. They are mostly visible in humanitarian assistance, averting hunger caused by failed harvests, disaster relief and re-construction, water, sanitation and health, education, training and capacity building. A number of these donors are supporting the piloting of proof-of-concept projects in adaptation and mitigation. In light of mainstreaming climate change into all aspects, it is prudent to propose closer engagement and collaboration with development partners to ensure that their support is aligned with the priority projects of the NDCs and that investments produce the best value for money and build sustainable resilience.

The African Union holds regular consultations and summits with the major donor countries and groupings thereof. An opportunity exists within these consultations to advocate for a new paradigm in the relations between Africa and the donor community into a mutually
beneficial symbiotic partnership of equals where Africa trades its mitigation and renewable energy potential to earn income for NDC implementation, sustainable development and resilience building.

**Activity 6.4**  
**Enhance Access to Climate Finance**

Over the years, several global (UN-sanctioned), international, continental, regional, national and private funds have been set up to support adaptation and mitigation actions in developing countries. The experiences of African states in accessing these funds are yet to reach levels where they make material difference in the lives of the most vulnerable. The major reason for this slow progress can be summed up as a weak capacity to develop and implement projects that meet the requirements for accessing the funding. The fact that other regions of the world are accessing significant amounts from these same funds, points to an acute need for boosting the capacity of Africans in this area.

Once again, as with innovation and entrepreneurship, integrating project management and climate finance into the education and training systems on the continent and providing support and incentives will produce many experts in a short period of time thereby plugging this capacity gap. Many institutions exist offering training in project management, innovation and entrepreneurship in virtually all countries that, with the right policies and incentives, can quickly re-focus and offer the necessary training and capacity building support starting almost right away. Students can take actual priority projects from their NDC priority list to further develop as part of their studies and thereafter to enhance practical capacity and prospects for accessing funding. Government and philanthropic scholarships and support from development partners should be channeled into acquiring the specialized expertise that is not readily available on the continent from abroad with the aim of localizing its generation.

**Activity 6.5**  
**Unlocking Africa’s Mitigation Potential**

Whilst adaptation unquestionably and rightly remains the top priority action for Africa, ‘the global ambition for mitigation is also projected to have significant consequences for adaptation costs in Africa,’ therefore, mitigation and adaptation both need to be prioritized for optimal resilience building and vulnerability reduction (UNEP, n.d.).

It should be recognised that there is an immense mitigation capacity in the continent’s vast landmass, oceans, lakes, forests, agricultural systems, land use and renewable energy
among others. A significant opportunity also exists to decarbonise African development by adopting clean, low emission technologies. This combined mitigation potential, if fully deployed, can launch Africa into a lead position in low carbon and ultimately, negative emission growth and development building on the continent’s historically low emissions. Africa already has a head start in the low carbon race and can earn significant additional income from green exports, renewable energy and carbon trade. To unlock this enormous potential requires a knowledgeable citizenry with a good understanding and appreciation of the issues. Next is to quantify and put values to these potentials. Appropriate policies and facilitative incentives are required to attract investments by African entrepreneurs in collaboration with others to liberate this idle potential for the benefit of all.

Most of the countries on the continent have much less un-amortized investments in heavy polluting industries using outdated technologies compared to some countries and regions. This situation obtains at a time of increased availability, competitiveness and affordability of alternative cleaner and greener technologies, especially in renewable energy, waste recycling, circular economies, information communication technologies and the ‘Internet of Things’ that African countries should embrace for low carbon growth and development.

The African continent has significant advantages for playing a lead role in the fast-evolving technology to produce green hydrogen which in increasingly seen as the fuel of the future due to its zero emissions and near universal applicability. Hybrid energy systems combining two or more renewable energy sources – hydro, solar, wind, geothermal, wave, green hydrogen and biomass are becoming popular as they offer sustainability, reliability and consistency of supplies. The continent has enough renewable potential for its own requirements and export. This is a boat that Africa should not miss.

This opportunity for renewable energy propelled low carbon growth and development coupled with the massive current untapped carbon absorption capacity of agriculture, forestry and land use (AFOLU) and circular economy approaches can propel the African continent into negative net emissions well before the 2063 target date for Africa’s full emancipation. Flagship projects such as the Great Green Wall are a strong testament of what can be achieved.

Not only can Africa attain negative net emission development, opportunities also exist to export renewable energy beyond the continent. Green hydrogen produced from excess
clean renewable energy and water is a perfect replacement for fossil fuels. Africa has the advantage of vast solar and other renewable energy and water resources that can be harnessed to propel the continent to become a global leader in the production and export of this precious fuel of the future and contribute to a reduction in global emissions. If achieved, this will place the continent on a higher pedestal at the global table.

**Activity 6.6 Monetizing Africa’s Natural Capital and Mitigation Potential**

The African continent is endowed with much human and natural resources which have been obtained from the continent for centuries by other nations and the practice continues to this day. African labour and raw materials have contributed immensely to the higher quality of life enjoyed in the developed countries. This centuries old outflow of resources from Africa has not changed the economic status of most of the poor vulnerable people some of whom must relocate to pave way for the exploitation of the natural resources in their areas. Often these operations have high carbon and environmental footprints and leaves the health of the people worse off.

While the era of resource and labour-based economies is giving way to a knowledge and artificial intelligence era, there will continue to be demand for materials and labour from Africa. It is essential to identify and quantify these resources, the demand for which is forecast to persist or rise in order to position African countries to extract the most out of these wasting, non-renewable assets while they still have value. Adding value to these resources in Africa is strongly recommended as green technologies and clean renewable energy can be deployed while offsetting the unavoidable emissions is easier in Africa given the continent’s vast mitigation potential.

**Activity 6.7 Payment for Ecosystem Services**

A lot has been extracted from the African ecosystem for centuries by locals and others without putting much back to preserve and grow this natural capital. In some areas, the ecosystem has been so depleted that the returns from it are diminishing thus accelerating further depletion as the rate of extraction far exceeds the rate of replenishment. If the continent is ever to win this war, this trend must be reversed through approaches such as restorative landscape or basin-scale management to increase productive function and to maintain the provision of ecosystem vital services to Africa’s millions of users.
The Water Vision 2025 is an example that proposes adopting the river basin as the unit for water resources management which in turn strengthens river-basin and aquifer management. The Natural Capital Protocol is also an example of a decision-making framework that should be employed as it enables organisations to measure and value their direct and indirect impacts and dependencies on natural capital flows. This assists in tracking and managing the health of the natural assets and assure sustainability and growth of the ecosystem services they provide as many poor people in Africa live off natural capital but not in a sustainable way.

Placing the correct value on the services the ecosystem provides and ensuring that those benefiting from it pay the right price will go a long way towards generating the resources with which to restore the ecosystems. The concept of payment for services is well established in many countries that collect fees for refuse collection, road tolls and tax vehicle emissions among others. These schemes must be extended to ecosystem services and all emitters must account and atone for their emissions. Government and all stakeholder involvement and partnership is necessary for success. The AUC, RECs and their agencies have a vital role to play in developing and implementing pilots of concept schemes in this regard. However, it is critical to note that the success of this hinges on governments ensuring that the revenues generated are ploughed back into the implementation of national climate change strategies.

It is best to start small and increase over time to give people time to change their behaviors and transition to low energy and carbon intensive lifestyles and incentivise the private sector to come in.

**Activity 6.8  Securitizing Land Tenure**

Land is without doubt, the mother of all natural capital as most things of value are either on or derived from it. Giving the right value and title to land so it can be bought, sold or used as collateral can unlock vast amounts of capital for the buyers, sellers and the government. According to the 2016 AU Gender Scorecard, insecure land rights for women lead to underinvestment. Many women farmers face insecure land tenure and are thus less likely to invest in their land or to adopt more efficient and sustainable practices as they are uncertain of reaping the benefits over the longer term. Women represent fewer than 5 percent of all agricultural landholders in North Africa and West Asia, while in sub-Saharan Africa they make up an average of 15 percent (UN Women, n.d.).
Different land tenure systems have evolved in Africa as a result of the different historical, social, political and cultural practices and processes. Rwanda is a country that aims to have all land under title. Guaranteed security of tenure with a gender inclusive lens gives more value to the land which can be used as collateral for climate smart, sustainable and profitable investments.

**Activity 6.9 Engaging the African Diaspora**

Agenda 2063 recognised the African diaspora as a key stakeholder in ‘The Africa We Want’ with good reason. For many countries, diaspora remittances now exceed foreign direct investment and official development assistance put together and is a leading source of foreign exchange. According to the World Bank (2020), in 2019, formal remittances to Africa totaled US$ 48 billion. It therefore follows that facilitating and coordinating diaspora remittances and savings is a major potential source of finance for green investments through channels such as diaspora green bonds and listings in diaspora stock exchanges.

One of the 10 key recommendations of translating the AU commitment for a legacy project on diaspora investments into practical terms involves supporting and facilitating the implementation of a diaspora investment and innovative finance strategy based on the creation, marketing, issuance and management of regulated diaspora bonds, mutual funds and endowment trust funds, through a continental African Diaspora Finance Corporation. Preliminary estimates from the World Bank (2010) suggest that African countries can raise up to US$ 10 billion per year by issuing diaspora bonds. Nonetheless, it is important to note that diaspora remittances will be divided amongst other sectors and will not only be for climate change related activities. Policy changes need to be effected to realize this.

With the ‘Internet of Things’ as an enabler, nearly everyone on the continent now has internet access. Networking green business and value chains must be promoted at the national, regional, continental and global/diaspora levels. Incentives should be availed to the African diaspora to mobilise and convey green investments into the continent. The diaspora can be organised to become the most important investment and technology transfer link between the African continent and countries they live in. It has been shown that circulating African money more among Africans can open channels for accessing enhanced resources to meet the needs of Africans. This is the basis of the Pan Africanist approach adopted in Agenda 2063.
Activity 6.10  Facilitating Carbon Trading

To get the most benefit out of the continent’s mitigation and clean renewable energy potential as provided for in the PA requires proficiency in carbon trading. The amount of carbon that is traded is also an indicator of the progress the country is making in reducing and managing its emissions. Platforms for collecting, pooling, marketing and trading in carbon credits must be established. Carbon trading should be a topic in the educational and training systems.

The issue of accessing the more lucrative carbon markets in Europe and the United States under the trade agreements reached should be taken up in the discussions and summits with developed parties,

PART VI: MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION

Mainstreaming Climate Change

To allow for the holistic implementation of the Africa Climate Change Strategy, efforts must be made to mainstream climate change into the strategies of other sectors. The AUC, REC Secretariats, their agencies and other stakeholders addressed in this Strategy must develop their own strategies streamlined with the continental Strategy, prioritising the threats faced in the regions they serve that are within their mandates. They are responsible for the development of implementation plans, annual work plans and budgets and resource mobilization plans to address their specific programmes and interventions.

Due to the proliferation of initiatives, overlapping memberships, the multi-stakeholder partnership and engagement approach described in Result 2 Activity 2.3 above is to be preferred at all levels. It brings together different expertise, capacities and resources in pursuit of streamlined programmes which greatly enhances the chances of success.

Roles and Responsibilities

The AU Commission and REC Secretariats have similar roles and responsibilities, the difference being the scope of the AUC which covers the entire continent and its 55 Member States including the African diaspora. The RECs, on the other hand, are the building blocks of the AU that focus on their specific geographical areas and Member
States. The common roles and responsibilities regarding the Africa Climate Change Strategy include:

1. Develop implementation plans, projects, budgets and mobilize resources to ensure the objectives and results of this Strategy are attained
2. Mainstreaming climate change into other initiatives and programmes
3. Partnerships development, coordination and streamlining
4. Research, knowledge management and capacity strengthening
5. Preparation of briefs, progress reports, lessons learnt and best practices
6. Facilitate the development of common positions and strategies
7. Support Member States to achieve their goals, synthesize them into regional and continental goals and targets to establish and drive common ambitions
8. Conduct M&E and impact assessments
9. Information and knowledge sharing
10. Advocacy, communications and visibility

The AUC and RECs also have specialised agencies and institutions with mandates to support specific intervention areas. They are also called upon to integrate climate change into their programming and align their approaches with the Africa Climate Change Strategy as their contribution.

The RECs, especially in the eastern and southern Africa region (COMESA, EAC, ECCAS, IGAD, SADC, AMU) have overlapping memberships. This further accentuates the need for streamlining strategies and approaches, joint programming and implementation. The Tripartite approach by COMESA, EAC and SADC has worked very well especially in the area of trade where the Tripartite FTA provided the AfCFTA with a good launch pad. The agreement establishing the AfCFTA was signed in March 2018 and operations will start in January 2020 which is a record by any standard. This approach should be emulated and extended to the other RECs as a launch pad for streamlined continental climate action.

**The Member States** as Parties to the UNFCCC, are responsible for the development, implementation, revision and updating of their national climate change policies, strategies and NDCs. In terms of the PA, they set their own goals, targets and priorities which become binding once submitted. They are expected to report progress in achieving these goals to the UNFCCC within the ETF. The Africa Climate Change Strategy seeks to
support the Member States in the pursuit of these goals from which common goals, targets and ambitions can be derived and synthesized.

**Partnerships** have crucial roles to play in the success of the Africa Climate Change Strategy. They bring resources, technology, capacity and experience to create synergy to ramp up the adaptive capacities and resilience of the vulnerable. In this category are UN agencies, international organisations, Non-State Actors, NGOs, technical collaborators and development partners. These are called upon to align their climate change strategies and support with the Africa Climate Change Strategy.

**Monitoring and Evaluation**
The targets, indicators and milestones are the pillars of M&E frameworks that must be developed for the interventions. The M&E framework must be built into the design of the interventions. Regional and continental targets will be synthesized from the national commitments. These are the targets whose progress towards achievement will be the subject of the M&E exercises.

Best African practices must be identified and used as benchmarks to propel the continent to ever higher levels of achievement and ambition. Continental and regional entities will champion multi-country and cross border projects and initiatives in close collaboration with Member States and other partners. In all these endeavors, the principle of subsidiarity will be respected and actively promoted where action is taken by the entity (i.e. continental, regional or national) best positioned to do so and supported by the others.

A major undertaking such as the Africa Climate Change Strategy requires an M&E Framework that is developed with the participation of all stakeholders and partners for ownership, better implementation traction, synergy and value for money. M&E should be integrated into the design of programmes and projects. Baselines must be established in a participatory manner at the design of interventions to set realistic targets that can be readily assessed and measured.

The purpose of the M&E Framework is to ensure successful implementation of activities and lead to the achievement of results of the Strategy. The climate change landscape is changing all the time as results of research and studies are released or new evidence comes to light. This is why the Africa Climate Change Strategy should be a living
document that can be updated as necessary to take into account any changes in the implementation environment.

**Responsibility**
The overall responsibility for the implementation and reporting on the progress of the Africa Climate Change Strategy lies with the AUC. Reports will be presented to and guidance will be provided, and decisions made as necessary by AMacen, relevant specialized technical committees, CAHOSCC and the Summit of Heads of State of the AU. Synthesis ‘State of Climate’ reports by the AUC and RECs should be developed from the Biennial Transparency Reports and Global Stocktake Reports submitted by the Member States to the UNFCCC. The implementation plans and logical frameworks will include targets for each result to be used as measures of progress against the targets. Independent consultants may be recruited to carry out external monitoring.

**Evaluation**
Evaluations are preferably undertaken by external expertise for importability in the assessments. A mid-term review, final evaluation and impact assessments are recommended, reports of which will be shared with stakeholders and partners.

**CONCLUSION**

This Strategy outlines impacts, priorities and suggested key actions for the effective tackling of climate change in Africa through 6 results areas, activities and sub-activities. In line with the PA, the Strategy is anchored on the commitments that the countries make and the targets they set for themselves. The Strategy is addressed to the AUC, RECs, and their agencies, Member States, partners, other stakeholders and the private sector.

The challenges of capacity and resource limitations will persist unless they are decisively dealt with for Africa to effectively tackle climate change. Agenda 2063 provides the ideological framework within which these limitations can be addressed by calling on the collective strength of a united Africa and her Diaspora within the unique African spirit of *Ubuntu* and the famous principle: ‘it takes a whole village to raise a man.’ Self-reliance and all stakeholder engagement and involvement is the cornerstone of success of the Strategy which is derived from the spirit of Agenda 2063. Africa must generate its own dynamic scientific, technological and entrepreneurial capability, innovate new, predictable
and sustainable sources of funding for its response to climate change. The African diaspora is identified as an important link with the outside world for Africa’s climate smart development. The Africa Climate Change Strategy re-iterates that adapting to and building resilience to climate change is the top priority for African countries, however, it also recognises the important role that Africa can play in mitigating climate change at the global level. If done diligently, this would make the continent a truly equal player as it can put on the table something of global significance and remove the beggar stereotype that has been attached to the continent.

African women and the youth hold a special position in this Strategy due to their vulnerability. The continent can only reap sustainable rewards from a climate change response that comprehensively incorporates gender and youth coupled with, Africa’s social and cultural values and natural capital endowments. Research, innovation and entrepreneurship development are key to overcoming the limitations to unlock the great latent potential of the sleeping giant that Africa is.

*Climate change does not respect national borders. We are all in the same boat. A hole at one end will sink us all* – Koffi Annan, former United Nations Secretary General
AFRICA CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY 2020: LOGICAL FRAMEWORK-(to be removed, to borrow some of the element t and this logical framework to be replaced with the implementation matrix/logical monitoring and implementation tool at different level, regional, sub-regional, national and sub-national)

<table>
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<th>INTERVENTION</th>
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| **Vision:** A climate Resilient Africa We Want | • Rising prosperity and development indices  
• Level of integration  
• Political stability peace and security indices | Agenda 2063 Targets | AUC, RECs and country reports | Commitment by all to achieve Agenda 2063 goals |
| **Mission:** To mitigate the impacts of climate change on the attainment of The Africa We Want | • Streamlined climate strategies and actions in Africa  
• Number of countries meeting their NDC targets | All RECs and MS streamline strategies | REC and MS Reports | RECs and MS committed to Agenda 2063 goals |
| **Overall Objective:** Achievement of the Agenda 2063 Vision by building the resilience of the African continent to the impacts of climate change | • Resilience Frameworks developed and internalised by RECs and MS  
• Reduction in loss and damages from climate change impacts | (The reduction must be quantified however, this needs consultations ) | MS reports | Warsaw International Mechanism is fully supported |
| **Specific Objectives:**  
SO1: contribute to the attainment of SDG 13 'Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts'  
SO2: contribute to the attainment of Paris Agreement goal of less than 2°C global temperature rise by the year 2100 | • Resources mobilised and deployed for climate action  
• Number of countries meeting their NDC targets  
• Emission reductions | Climate change integrated into NDPs of all MS and RECs strategies | ETF reports by the MS | Developed countries honour their commitment to mobilise $100 billion annually by 2020 |
| **Result1:** Institutional capacities to implement climate change strategies | • Number of effective national and regional structures | All MS and RECs | REC and MS reports | RECs and MS harmonise strategies and are willing to |
| Activity 1.1: Institutional set-up Development and Strengthening | for tackling climate change  
- Number of institutions offering training and capacity building | | collaborate and share |
| Activity 1.2: Capacity Building | | | |
| Activity 1.2.1 Development of Climate Change Information | Result 2: Regional and national climate change strategies are streamlined  
- Number of strategies reviewed, updated and aligned with the continental strategy | All RECs and MS | |
| Activity 1.3: Education and Training | Activity 2.1: Review of existing strategies | | |
| Activity 1.4: Research and Development | Activity 2.2: Streamlined Inclusive Planning and Design | | |
| Activity 1.5: Visibility and Communications | Activity 2.3: Multi-stakeholder partnership and engagement | | |
| | Current Status: | | Commitment by MS and RECs to harmonise |
| | Result 3: Africa speaks with one voice  
- Unified African Position developed for all negotiations  
  - AUC has Party status and speaks for Africa  
  - Reduction in development gap  
  - Increase in development index  
  | 2025 for AUC Party status | | |
| Activity 3.1: Addressing the development gap | AUC Reports | MS willing to confer party status to the AUC |
| Activity 3.2: Building negotiation capacity | UNFCCC register | |
| Activity: 3.2.1. Training Negotiators | | |
| | Result 4: Resilience built; vulnerability reduced  
- Number of streamlined resilience frameworks developed and domesticated | AUC, all RECs and MS | |
| Activity 4.1: Prioritizing Adaptation | Reports of the AUC, RECs and MS  
- Bulletins issued from the EWS | | Convergence of minds on resilience and the continental EWS |
| Activity 4.2: Disaster Risk Reduction | • Continental early warning system operational  
| Activity 4.3: Set up a Continental Early warning System | • SDFRR 38 indicators  
| Activity 4.4: Capacitate Regional Climate Centres |  
| Activity 4.5: Reduce Loss and Damage |  
| Activity 4.6: Build Resilience |  
| Activity 4.7: Integrating DRR, Climate Change and Ecosystem Management |  
| **Result 5:** Investments into Climate Related Areas | • Governments allocations  
| Activity 5.1: Increase Public Sector Investments | • Private investments  
| Activity 5.2: Facilitating Private Investments | • Proportion of trade in environmentally responsible goods and services  
| Activity 5.3: Facilitate Environmentally Responsible Trade |  
| Activity 5.4: Innovation and Entrepreneurship Development |  
| Activity 5.5: Support Medium to Small Enterprise Development |  
| **Result 6:** Increased Access to Finance and Technology | • Number of income streams in use  
| Activity 6.1: Promote climate sensitive public sector financing | • Quantum of resources mobilised by the AUC, RECs and MS  
| Activity 6.1.1: Financing AU and REC Secretariats |  
|  |  
|  | (Baselines needed to set realistic targets)  
|  | MS reports  
|  | MS willing to invest and provide support and incentives  
|  |  
|  | MS fully fund the non-conditional NDCs by 2025  
|  | MS reports  
|  | MS deploy resources as planned  

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