Proceedings of the Seventh Climate Change and Development in Africa Conference

Policies and Actions for Effective Implementation of the Paris Agreement for Resilient Economies in Africa

Nairobi, Kenya
October 2018
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Full Form</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ACSEA</td>
<td>Africa Coalition for Sustainable Energy and Access</td>
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<td>ACPC</td>
<td>African Climate Policy Centre</td>
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<td>AF</td>
<td>Adaptation Fund</td>
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<td>AfDB</td>
<td>African Development Bank</td>
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<td>AGN</td>
<td>African Group of Negotiators</td>
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<td>AMCEN</td>
<td>African Ministerial Conference on Environment</td>
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<td>AREI</td>
<td>Africa Renewable Energy Initiative</td>
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<td>AU</td>
<td>African Union</td>
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<td>AUC</td>
<td>African Union Commission</td>
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<td>CAS</td>
<td>Chief Administrative Secretary</td>
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<td>CCDA</td>
<td>Climate Change and Development in Africa</td>
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<tr>
<td>CIS</td>
<td>Climate Information Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>ClimDev-Africa</td>
<td>Climate for Development programme in Africa</td>
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<td>CR4D</td>
<td>Climate Research for Development</td>
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<td>COP</td>
<td>Conference of Parties</td>
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<td>CSO</td>
<td>Civil Society Organization</td>
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<td>GCF</td>
<td>Green Climate Fund</td>
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<td>GDP</td>
<td>Gross Domestic Product</td>
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<td>GEF</td>
<td>Global Environment Facility</td>
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<td>GESIP</td>
<td>Kenya Green Economy Strategy Implementation Plan</td>
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<td>GHGs</td>
<td>Greenhouse Gases</td>
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<td>INDC</td>
<td>Intended Nationally Determined Contributions</td>
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<td>IPCC</td>
<td>Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change</td>
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<td>NDC</td>
<td>Nationally Determined Contributions</td>
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<td>PACJA</td>
<td>Pan-African Climate Justice Alliance</td>
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<td>PEEC</td>
<td>Pan-African Enabling Environment Component of WISER</td>
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<tr>
<td>SDG</td>
<td>Sustainable Development Goal</td>
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<td>SEB</td>
<td>Socio Economic Benefits</td>
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<td>SSP</td>
<td>Shared Social economic Pathways</td>
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<td>UN</td>
<td>United Nations</td>
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<td>UNECA</td>
<td>United Nations Economic Commission for Africa</td>
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<td>UNFCCC</td>
<td>United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change</td>
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<td>WISER</td>
<td>Weather and Climate Information Services for Africa</td>
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<td>WMO</td>
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1. SUMMARY

The seventh Conference on Climate Change and Development in Africa (CCDA VII), which was held from 10 to 12 of October 2018 at Safari Park Hotel in Nairobi, Kenya, is a flagship event of the Climate for Development in Africa (ClimDev-Africa) programme. The conference was organized by the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) in partnership with the Pan-African Climate Justice Alliance (PACJA), the African Development Bank (AfDB) and the African Union Commission (AUC).

The CCDA VII was held under the main theme of “Policies and Actions for Effective Implementation of the Paris Agreement for Resilient Economies in Africa” with the aim of re-examining Africa’s options for the implementation of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) to effectively promote climate resilience and low carbon emission development. The main theme was discussed under three sub-themes namely (i) Advancing the implementation of NDCs in Africa, (ii) Climate information services (CIS) in support of the NDCs, and (iii) Climate finance for the implementation of NDCs.

The general objective of the conference was to interrogate Africa’s NDCs and define actionable agendas. The specific objectives were:

i. To provide space and facilitate science-practice-policy dialogue to unpack the options available for the implementation of the contributions in Africa;

ii. To address the missing links for enhanced uptake and use of CIS into development planning, policy and practice in Africa, including sectoral contributions; and

iii. To understand the various options to finance climate action, including the modalities for unlocking available and new forms of climate finance, such as leveraging market mechanisms for climate actions and sustainable economic development.

The conference brought a wide range of stakeholders across Africa and beyond including policy makers and technocrats from various Africa ministries and agencies, Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), research institutions, development partners, international organisations, private sector and media.

As it was the tradition in the previous CCDAs, various constituencies had held pre-events on climate governance, climate finance, agricultural resilience and food security, forests, youth, emission reduction and green growth.

By uniting plenary sessions, parallel sessions, breakout sessions and exhibitions for dialogue and interaction, CCDA-VII provided a much needed continental platform for sharing lessons on the implementation of NDCs, key research findings, outreach and policy uptake, as well as stimulate investment.
2. BACKGROUND OF THE CONFERENCE THEME

The Paris Agreement came into being after protracted negotiations over many years, marked in particular by the failure of the Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC, which had met in Copenhagen in 2009, to usher in a successor agreement to the Kyoto Protocol. The Paris Agreement, as stated in its article 2, is aimed at holding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels. Its implementation would be based on the principles of equity and common but differentiated responsibilities and relevant capabilities, in the light of different national circumstances. In terms of the Paris Agreement, the submitted INDCs become the commitments of the parties to take collective action to implement economy-wide or sector-wide reductions of greenhouse gases emissions that will be evaluated, beginning in 2018. A key component of this accord is that developed countries will make finance and technology available to support developing nations in implementing their NDCs and adapting to a changing climate. As of June 2018, of the 54 African countries that are signatories to the Paris Agreement, 44 have submitted their NDCs to the UNFCCC.

Although the Paris Agreement has been hailed as a landmark achievement in multilateralism, it was deliberately crafted with weak, self-determined targets and no enforcement mechanisms in order to avoid the challenges experienced with the Kyoto Protocol. This has significant implications for the achievement of the Paris Agreement’s goals. Overall, the commitments made under it are not sufficient to meet the 2°C target, with the most optimistic of projections indicating that full implementation of the targets will, at best, put the world on course for a 2.7°C warming. For Africa, it is important to note that a global average warming of 2°C would imply temperature increases of greater than 4°C on most of the continent, with disastrous consequences for economies, infrastructure and livelihoods. The challenge for the continent is how the various rules and regulations crafted to guide the implementation of the Paris Agreement, including the application of the ratchet-up mechanism, will be applied to support increased ambition beyond the current NDCs levels to prevent irreversible warming.

Having embraced the green growth pathway outlined in Agenda 2063 “The Africa We Want”, Agenda 2030 “Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)” and the Paris Agreement, the imperative for African countries is to re-examine their options for the implementation of NDCs under the changing global political landscape to effectively promote climate resilience and low carbon emission development. Translating NDCs into concrete actions, however, requires, among other things, implementation plans that prioritize specific sectoral climate actions and predictable finance flows, sustained capacity-building and the transfer of relevant technologies from developed countries. This, in turn, calls for serious dialogue and interaction between policymakers, scientists and researchers, as well as other stakeholders, to support the translation of the nationally determined contributions into action plans and programmes.

The seventh Conference on Climate Change and Development in Africa (CCDA-VII) had, therefore, brought together various stakeholders to interrogate Africa’s NDCs and define actionable climate agendas. This gathering was built on the sixth Conference, which focused on understanding the implementation implications, challenges and opportunities of the Paris Agreement in the context of Africa’s development priorities prior to it coming into effect on 4 November 2016.
3. Welcome Remarks

3.1. Welcome Remarks

Mr. Mithika Mwenda, Director General of the Pan-African Climate Justice Alliance (PACJA), began his remarks by welcoming all participants to the conference. He also thanked the Government of Kenya, the United Nation Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), the African Development Bank (AfDB) and the African Union (AU) for the partnership that has delivered the conference.

He noted that CCDA VII comes at heightened anxiety in the world for the realization of ambitious goal of 1.5°C. In this regard, he applauded the significance of Africa countries’ willingness to participate at international conferences, such as UNFCCC COPs, as one group and speak in one voice. However, he questioned the prolonged time and huge resources spent by Africans on the UNFCCC meetings while developed countries - who are supposed to take actions - are worried about the effect of limiting greenhouse gases (GHGs) emission on their own economy. Moreover, there is a widening gap on actions to achieve the ambitions of the Paris Agreement in reducing anthropogenic GHGs emission to the atmosphere.

He noted that NDCs are central to addressing both mitigation and adaptation actions and are, to varying extents, dependent on the financing modalities for implementation. Mitigation actions pivot around avoiding emissions, given the low level of fossil fuel-intensive activities on the continent. Hence, he urged the African leaders to focus on climate finance, capacity building and technology transfer during the on-going UNFCCC discussions and should resist any attempt that scatter the voice of their people. They should work to avoid the suit of previous efforts, notably the pre-2020 ambitions, that lays in the graveyard of the UNFCCC.

He concluded his welcoming remarks by hoping that the recently released IPCC report will warn hardline positions and change stances of the developed countries. He also underscored the role and importance of CSOs in addressing the impacts of climate change as they are most represented on the ground and are first responders including in disasters. CSOs should be treated as partners rather than adversaries.

Finally, he urged the conference participants to use the outcomes and recommendations of this conference in their efforts of addressing climate change challenges and determine how African countries moves forward.
The second welcoming remark was given by Mr. James Murombedzi, the officer-in-charge of the African Climate Policy Centre (ACPC) of UNECA. He delivered his welcoming speech on behalf of the Chief Economist and Deputy Executive Secretary of the UNECA, Dr. Abdallah Hamdok and extended his gratitude to the government of Kenya for hosting this meeting. He further explained that CCDA is a flagship event of the ClimDev-Africa initiative, a tripartite programme of the AUC, the AfDB and UNECA, and conceived as a physical dialogue place to promote interaction between science and policy on issue related to the climate change-development nexus.

He extended his gratitude to the government of Kenya for hosting us, as a gathering of scientists and policy makers, to reflect on the challenges of translating the Paris Agreement from policies into action. We are also grateful to PACJA as co-host of this meeting, and especially for their role in mobilizing the massive participation of civil society from Kenya and beyond. Allow me to also acknowledge the AfDB and AUC, the ClimDev partners who made this meeting possible.

He stated that climate change poses undoubtedly the greatest risk to the realization of the ideals of agenda 2063 and the SDGs. In this regard, the IPCC special report on the impacts of global warming of 1.5 °C above pre-industrial levels is unequivocal. Launched in South Korea on Monday 8th October, the report concludes, inter alia, that

1. Climate change is happening at a rate much faster than previously estimated. Global warming is outstripping all our efforts to resolve it.
2. The impacts of global warming are also already much greater than predicted, particularly in developing countries: (a) In order to avoid passing the 1.5 degrees guardrail, we need to reduce emissions by 45% by 2030 – we have under 12 years to achieve that; (b) And to have a 50% chance of staying within the 1.5 degrees threshold the world must become carbon neutral by 2050, in only 32 years.
3. Avoiding a catastrophe will require a major transformation of society and the world economy on an unprecedented scale
4. Limiting global warming to 1.5 degrees will cost $2.4 trillion of investments in the global energy system every year between 2016 and 2035 (this is equivalent to 2.5% of world GDP). The cost of not doing anything will be much, much higher.

But it is not all doom and gloom. The report also concludes that “Anthropogenic emissions up to the present are unlikely to cause further warming of more than 0.5°C over the next two to three decades (high confidence) or on a century time scale (medium confidence).” Now, this means that there is a chance for a stable climate system which will allow for sustainable development but only if we do manage to halt emissions in the projected time frame. So this means we are faced with two challenges. The first to halt emissions and to have an organized transition to a carbon neutral future in the shortest time possible. And the second to restructure our economies to ensure sustainable development without further emissions. It has been demonstrated that in addressing these challenges, there are opportunities to be harnessed. Sustainable, inclusive and equitable development which does not increase atmospheric carbon concentrations is possible. But for these opportunities to be realized, a lot needs to be done.
This CCDA VII is, therefore, designed to explore the potential of the Paris Agreement to achieve its objective. The key questions that we must ask are:

- Given what we know since the conclusion of the Agreement in 2015, is the Agreement in its present form capable of addressing the climate challenge,
- What strategies and mechanisms can be implemented in order to increase the climate ambition of our nations,
- While the Agreement is a treaty between nation states, what roles can be played by the different stakeholders in the implementation of its ambition, and
- What solutions can we, as Africa, bring to the table?

He expressed his gratitude to each and every one of you for making time to join in this very important meeting, and to contribute your knowledge, expertise and experience towards developing African solutions to global challenges. He finally looked forward to enriching and productive discussions over the next three days, and at the end of the meeting, we will have some important messages and proposals for all stakeholders.

Ms.Olushola Olayide, Senior Policy Advisor at the AUC, began her welcoming speech by conveying apologies from the AUC chairperson who could not join the conference but welcomed all participants on his behalf. She also extended gratitude to the government of Kenya for hosting the conference just after holding the seventh special session of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN) that demonstrates country’s commitment to address climate change. Moreover, she thanked UNECA and PACJA for organizing the session.

She stated that Africa is the most vulnerable continent to the adverse impacts of climate change. Hence, continental events such as CCDA provide a platform for science, policy and practice dialogue in addressing the challenges of climate change. She believes the outcomes of the conference will help African countries in getting firmer grasp on implementation of the Paris Agreement as well as the realization of the SDGs and Agenda 2063. She added that at the up-coming UNFCCC COP24, the Paris Agreement’s ‘rule book’, is expected to be adopted and the outcomes of this conference will help to facilitate Africa’s engagement in negotiations process.

She finally reiterated AUC commitment to support African countries in implementation of the Paris Agreement and concluded her brief remarks by calling all partners to join Africa and Africa leaders to speak with one voice in a spirit of Africanism in the international fora.
The fourth welcoming remarks was given by Mr. James Kinyangi, Chief Climate Policy Officer at the African Development Bank (AfDB). Mr. Kinyangi started by observing the protocol and highlighted that the theme of CCDA VII is designed to provide participants the opportunity to review the implementation of the Paris Agreement. He pointed out that climate change is a threat to Africa’s development with 180 million people affected and the accompanied losses tune to US $22 billion. Fifty three (53) African countries are committed to implement their NDCs, with the finance amounting to US $3.5 to 4 trillion. This provides opportunity for the AfDB to provide support to African countries to build their resilience and follow low-emission pathway.

He added that bank’s engagement in green growth will become more significant as it focuses on 2016–2020 modalities for achieving adaptation goals. This will focus on building technical skills, adoption on high technology sector while tripling climate change finance to $5 billion including investment on climate information services to build resilience. He concluded by reiterating the commitment of the bank towards addressing climate change and thanked the Government of Kenya and all present at the conference.

In his brief remarks, the Hon. Mohammed Elmi, Chief Administrative Secretary at the Kenya Ministry of Environment and Forestry, highlighted that climate change is a reality and is no longer be levelled as ‘fake news’. He described that climate change is happening just like baldness – it creeps on us gradually and reached a point where immediate actions are needed. Hence, we either deal with it now or it will deal with us. He further made a reference to Kenya ambitious plan of getting water for all homes by the year 2000 that was pushed to 2015 and it is still being pushed. But, climate change cannot be pushed to other time unlike the above-mentioned plan.

In this regard, he lauded the comprehensive framework for climate change the Kenyan government has put in place, notably the Kenya Green Economy Strategy Implementation Plan (GESIP) 2016–2020, which was designed to support the transition to a low carbon economy.

To fully realize the transition from carbon savvy economy to carbon neutral economy, huge finance, investments, technology and capacity building are necessary. In this regard, he called for integrated planning and engagement of every stakeholder - from national to global – including the CSOs in the process. In his conclusion he urged participants that there is need to break barriers and go back to our roots and work with our researchers to fight climate change.
Hon. Wilber Otichilo, Governor, Vihiga County began his remarks by congratulating the organisers for jointly convening the conference. He pointed out that Africa should re-examines efforts within the Paris Agreement in implementing NDCs under the changing political climate. Hence, he called for the translation of the NDCs into concrete and implementable action plans. This, however, requires prioritization of specific sectors and works towards securing remittable finance flows, sustained capacity building and transfer of technology.

He mentioned that many African countries have made progress in the implementation of NDCs but relevant stakeholders should be consulted and engaged at all levels to measure, report and verify the progress. In this context, he went on to outline the importance and responsibility of sub-national government in pursuant to the Kenya’s Climate Change Act of 2016. This Act requires the county governments in Kenya to coordinate, implement and report on climate change programs and actions taken. He also added that for effective implementation of NDCs as well as in advancing climate change agenda the Council of Governors is represented in national climate change plan task force, fund task force, working group and participated at global level as part of the Kenyan delegation.

He has, therefore, emphasized the need for national and county governments to work together and developed agreed mechanism on how to trickle down climate finance to the local levels. He added that while countries are committed to implement NDCs, we need to move to the county level to deal with emission reduction. This is because the solution for the local problem is found from the people who lived with the problem, which appealing for truly engagement of local people in designing of climate-responsive strategies. In this regard, he stressed that the use of simple communication strategy such as local FM radios and mobile phones could help to reach a critical mass in raising awareness on NDCs.
3.2. Official Opening

Hon. Keriako Tobiko, Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forestry of Kenya made the official opening remarks on behalf of the President of Kenya, Hon Uhuru Kenyatta who also chairs the National Climate Change Council.

I am delighted to join you this morning for 7th Conference on Climate Change and Development in Africa (CCDA-VII), which is convened by my Government, in collaboration with ClimDev-Africa Partners, PACJA and Think Renewables (from Canada), among others.

I am informed that this conference has attracted about 700 participants including researchers, policy makers, multilateral development banks, intergovernmental agencies, development partners, academia, parliamentarians, government officials, private sector, civil society, the youth, women and the media. On behalf of my government and the people of Kenya; I wish to take this opportunity to extend a warm welcome to all distinguished guests who are gathered here to discuss the realities of climate change and how to address them following the Paris Agreement adopted in 2015. The theme of this year’s CCDA, “Policies and actions for effective implementation of the Paris Agreement for resilient economies in Africa”, reflects our collective engagement and commitment to strengthen climate change actions in the context of Africa’s development priorities.

Ladies and Gentlemen

Climate change is a matter of life and death for Africa. We have all experienced the devastating and unprecedented impacts of climate change on our peoples' lives and livelihoods as well as our national economies. Africa is the most vulnerable continent despite contributing only about 4% to global greenhouse gas emissions. However, climate change threats present opportunities for innovative and green investments for Africa. This is why implementation of the Paris Agreement remains a priority for the Continent in order to adapt to the inevitability of climate variability and change. It is however important to emphasize that achieving the goals of the Agreement require committed leadership from state and non-state actors.

This Week on Monday 8th October 2018, the IPCC released the landmark report on “Global Warming of 1.5°C, special report and its impacts in the context of strengthening the global response to the threat of climate change, sustainable development, and efforts to eradicate poverty.” Limiting global warming to 1.5°C would require rapid, far reaching and unprecedented changes in all aspects of our society. As you may be aware, 2018 a critical year for the operationalization of the Paris Agreement. The nature and extent of parties’ obligations will only be clear once negotiations on the Paris Rule Book are complete, and hopefully adopted in COP 24, in Katowice, Poland in December 2018. Operationalisation implies that adequate and predictable resources be mobilised and made available to support adaptation and mitigation action in Africa and other developing world.
Further, Parties will take stock of the collective efforts in the progress towards the goal set in the Paris Agreement in light of the 1.5°C Special Report released by the IPCC during the Talanoa Dialogue. The Dialogue focuses on three questions: Where are we? Where do we want to go? How do we get there? The 1.5°C Special report gives us guidance to the where we are and where we want to go. The outcome of COP 24 negotiations will be critical in determining how we get there based on the synthesis report to be released by UNFCCC before COP24. It is therefore important that the discussions and outcome of this conference will contribute to build momentum towards the upcoming meeting in Poland (COP 24) and implementation of our Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). Investing in innovative practical solutions to climate change challenges will not only contribute to attainment of the Paris Agreement and Sustainable Development Goals, but also Africa’s Agenda 2063.

_Ladies and gentlemen_

Kenya’s effort to tackle climate change started before the ratification of the United Nations Framework Convention (UNFCCC) on Climate Change in 1994 which was followed by ratification of the Kyoto Protocol (1997) in 2005, Doha Amendment to the Kyoto Protocol (2014) and Paris Agreement in 2016. Kenya has put in place an enabling policy and legal environment for climate change implementation. These include:

- National Climate Change Response strategy (2010);
- National Climate Change Action Plan (2013 – 2017; and 2018 – 2022);
- National Adaptation Plan (2015 – 2030);
- National Climate Change Framework Policy;
- Climate Change Act, 2016;
- National Policy on Climate Finance.

Several African Countries submitted ambitious NDCs under the Paris Agreement. Kenya took an emission reduction target of 30% by 2030 against a Business As Usual (BAU) scenario. Our NDC will be implemented through the five-year National Climate Change Action Plans as prescribed in Climate Change Act of 2016. Our National Climate Action Plan (2018-2022) identifies priority climate actions that are aligned to the Medium Term Planning process, and takes cognisance of the impacts of climate change on the socio-economic sectors. It identifies priority sectors for intervention namely:

a) Disaster risk management;
b) Food and nutrition security;
c) Water and the blue economy;
d) Forestry, wildlife and tourism;
e) Health, sanitation and human settlements;
f) Manufacturing;
g) Energy and Transport

The Climate Change Act (2016) established clear governance and coordination mechanisms. The Act also establishes a high level National Climate Change Council (chaired by H.E. the President, with inclusive representation from the national and county governments, private sector, civil society, academia and the marginalized groups). However, the Council has not yet been operationalized due to a court case by the civil society, challenging the nominations of their representatives, therefore holding the country at ransom.
The implementation of the climate change actions is the responsibility of all stakeholders at all levels including the State (national and sub-national governments) and non-state actors (the marginalized/indigenous communities, private sector, the youth and women). The Climate Change Act also defines the roles of the Directorate as the lead agency in climate change affairs; Climate Change Units in Ministries, departments, Agencies and County Governments; and Climate Change Fund as a financing mechanism for priority climate change actions. All these institutions are obligated to support implementation of the Action Plan by law. My Government is currently pursuing a Five-year development plan to achieve the Big 4 Agenda which focuses on food security, universal healthcare, affordable housing and manufacturing. We are embracing new and innovative technologies in the field of climate smart agriculture, building technologies, health and resource efficient manufacturing, among others, to achieve the Agenda.

Ladies and Gentlemen

There are numerous practical and innovative solutions at community, sub-national, national and international level that we can scale up. As part of tapping into the opportunities in biodiversity, Kenya will hosting the first Sustainable Blue Economy Conference between the 26th and 28th November 2018 to promote sustainable investments in oceans, seas, lakes, and rivers. I invite you all to attend and actively participate in the Conference so as to raise the African voice in matters of Blue Economy and Ocean governance.

Given that our shared ecosystems and natural resources know no boundaries, it is essential that we continue to speak in one voice to safeguard the basis of our development and seek transformative solutions. I therefore wish you fruitful deliberations and outcomes in this Conference.

God Bless You and Thank you all.
4. **INTRODUCTION TO THE CONFERENCE SUBTHEMES**

Mr. Murombedzi provided a brief overview of the conference theme by looking at the three issues and outcomes. The three issues – action, information and investment – were linked with the corresponding conference subtheme of NDCs implementation, Climate Information Services (CIS) and climate finance.

He reminded the conference participants that discussion around the implementation of NDCs should encompass, among others, scenario development, risk assessment and how climate change impact sustainable development. He also highlighted that the second theme shall explore how CIS can be harnessed in support of NDC implementation. The discussions around this subtheme should also take into account the importance of indigenous knowledge and co-production of CIS. On climate finance subtheme, he emphasized that participants discussion shall focus on the needs for different investments for effective implementation of the NDC where the sources and mechanisms of climate finance explored in detail.

He added that the outcomes are expected to focus on recommending policies and action that link into five (5) shared social economic pathways (SSP). These are sustainability as SSP1, middle of the road (SSP2), regional rivalry (SSP3), inequality (SSP4) and fossil fuel development (SSP5).

The three issues of the conference were discussed for three (3) days in multiple formats, which are plenary discussions, parallel sessions and exhibitions. A number of topics, in line with the conference themes, were also discussed.

![Fig. 1. Extract of the summary of three issues and outcomes](image-url)
5. SUBTHEME 1: ADVANCING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF NDCs IN AFRICA

5.1. Background

The modest goals of the Paris Agreement present a real challenge for limiting global warming to 2°C and striving to bring it down to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels. The most optimistic projections of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) indicate that the full implementation of the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) will, at best, put the world on course for a 2.7°C warming. Moreover, a global average warming of 2°C in the Paris Agreement would imply temperature increases of greater than 4°C in most African countries, with disastrous consequences for economies, infrastructure and livelihoods. As the Paris Agreement makes the transition into implementation, the challenge for the continent is how the various rules and regulations that are being crafted to guide its implementation, including the application of the ratchet-up mechanism, can be designed in ways that ensure the voluntary commitments of the countries, especially developed ones, delivered.

A total of 44 African countries have already ratified the Paris Agreement, with very ambitious conditional and unconditional NDCs, but these require significant investment, in the order of $2.5 trillion. It is therefore crucial that efforts be made towards mobilizing significant and adequate support in the implementation process (i.e., finance, capacities and technology). Without substantial support, however, African countries will probably not achieve the goals and targets outlined in their contributions. Furthermore, it important to ensure proper alignment of their implementation with other national development agendas using an integrative approach and joint programming for cost-effective implementation.

Hence, under the sub-theme of “Advancing the implementation of NDCs in Africa”, participants discussed the realities and aspirations, nuances and politics associated with the Paris Agreement; NDCs in African context; the UNFCCC Talanoa dialogue as well as the nexus between Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and NDCs.

5.2. Paris Agreement: African Realities and Aspirations, Nuances and Politics

5.2.1. Keynote Address

The session started with a keynote address on the “Paris Agreement: African realities and aspirations, nuances and politics so far” by Professor Seth Osafo, legal advisor of the African Group of Negotiators (AGN) to the UNFCCC. He provided detailed explanations on the Paris Agreement, expectations from the upcoming UNFCCC COP24, major issues under negotiations, major challenges, political hurdles and African priorities. He explained that the Paris Agreement was the fourth instrument of climate change after UNFCCC, Kyoto Protocol and the Doha Amendments to Kyoto Protocol. It is an agreement and not a convention or protocol but aimed at avoiding controversies and bring on board the United States of America though President Trump then made intent to withdraw from the agreement followed by some other leaders such as the Australia Prime Ministers who said will not contribute to the Green Climate Fund (GCF).

He outlined the expectations from the UNFCCC COP24 as operationalization of the Paris Agreement by completion of the ‘rule book’, facilitative dialogue (Talanoa dialogue), stocktaking of implementation of the UNFCCC and Kyoto Protocol (focus on Doha Amendments) and expectation from high-level event on climate finance. He further explained the major issues under negotiations as
adaptation communication and reporting, NDC, climate finance, technology, capacity building, transparency and compliance.

He highlighted challenges and political hurdles that countries need to overcome. These are transformation of current text into negotiating text and subsequent adoption of ‘rule book’ (i.e., operationalization of Adaptation goal and Loss and Damage; elaboration of compliance regime; what to do with outcome of Talanoa dialogue; flexibility of differentiations; and finance on the mobilization of the US $100 billion from Copenhagen). Also, he stated that the role of US and their withdrawal; differences among developed countries and developing countries over mitigation, adaptation and finance are remained daunting challenges for leaders’ summit preceding the UNFCCC COP24.

African priorities to be remained effective, the implementation of existing instruments (UNFCCC and the entry into force of Doha Amendment), completion of work on a balanced ‘rule book’ for the implementation of the Paris Agreement, support for African initiatives (Africa Renewable Energy Initiative and Africa Adaptation Initiative), and predictable and adequate finance are important.

He concluded by lauded African countries and leaders who spoken in one voice on international conference, notably under the UNFCCC negotiations for the operationalization of the Paris Agreement. In this regard, AGN, as a more dynamic and effective group, took leads in a number of process.

5.2.2. Panel Discussion

The key note address was succeeded by inputs from two panelists – Dr. Winnie Lichuma from Africa Working Group on Gender and Climate Change and Dr. George Wamukoya from AGN. They focused on unpacking the Paris Agreement and gender.

Dr. Lichuma mentioned that gender issues have not been well articulated in Africa and stressed a need for the Paris Agreement to be more gender responsive. She, however, recognized the inclusion of gender component on the Paris Agreement preamble, Article 7, which calls for gender responsive adaptation in country set-up and Article 11 which recognises vulnerability and importance to highlight difference between men and women. She also outlined articles that have gender but not exclusively reflected which are on mitigation, finance and technology. She further outlined the five (5) priority areas of the Gender Action Plan adopted in 2017 which are capacity building, knowledge sharing and communication; gender balanced participation and women leadership; coherence at the national level; gender responsive discussion and means of implementation; and monitoring and reporting. From a gender perspective, it was observed that the statistics are poor and African needs gender equality.

Dr. Wamukoya began by recognizing the step that has been made on gender issues though further steps are needed to integrate it into other ‘pillars’ such as mitigation, adaptation and finance. He mentioned that there is a need to further unpack the adaptation goal; create synergy between adaptation, resilience and mitigation; create tools to track resilience; exploring other sources of climate finance including bilaterals after US withdrawal; link Article 4 and Article 7; and reflection of existing NDCs which mostly were not participatory and overpromised. He concluded his inputs by providing key milestones whereby for 2018 is the IPCC 1.5°C report and the Paris Agreement ‘rule book’; in 2020 will be the review of NDCs; 2023 the global stocktake; and 2025 communication of second generation of NDCs that will operate from 1st January 2031.
5.3. The Africa NDCs

5.3.1. Presentation

The main presentation was provided by Dr. Olufunso Somorin from AfDB and focused on NDCs in the African context. He began by highlighting that all the fifty four (54) Africa countries have signed the Paris Agreement, with forty five (45) already ratified and forty (40) submitted their NDCs. The submitted NDCs have been observed to have weak strategic alignment with national development plans and wider SDGs; less opportunities for maximizing co-benefit; and limited description of monitoring, review and reporting processes of climate actions.

On the governance structures and processes; he mentioned that African countries recognise climate change as a development challenge. They are mostly developed national climate change strategies and actions plans even at sub-national and regional levels, and establish institutional framework. However, there is further need for continuous strengthening of these frameworks. He acknowledged that African countries are making progress on accessing climate finance but the accessed funds from existing climate financing scheme do not commensurate to the needs. Therefore, there is a need to develop robust financial and investment plans; reliable data sources and comprehensive sector analyses; and enhanced role of the private sector in NDC implementation.

Dr. Somorin then explained about the Africa NDC hub which is a collaborative platform established to support African countries in their achievements by 2030. It operates in three key pillars which are (i) to foster long-term climate action, (ii) to mobilize means of implementation, and (iii) to promote coordination, advocacy and partnership. It also has two focus areas which are adaptation and private sector engagement. The operations of the NDC Hub in 2018 included country engagement in Kenya, Uganda, Namibia, Mozambique, Mali, Seychelles, Rwanda and Gabon.

5.3.2. Panel Discussion

The presentation was followed up by contributions from five (5) panelists on the context and advancement of the NDCs. The panelists echoed the presentation that the submitted NDC from Africa were done in a hurry and created challenges in implementation for both conditional and non-conditional NDCs. To facilitate implementation of the NDCs, the panelists proposed to conduct a technical analysis in all sectors involved - what are the costs; who are the key stakeholders including CSOs and private sectors, capacity building needs, strengthen coordination, research, innovative ways of mobilizing climate finance, and others. A call was also made to ACPC, PACJA and AfDB to provide support of the outlined challenges and recommendations.

It was further highlighted that all important components required for addressing adaptation and mitigation interventions are not fully captured in the African NDCs. Also, the current submitted NDCs will take the average global temperature to between 3-4°C and therefore is still far away from the 1.5°C target. Therefore, it is important to create synergies on adaptation and mitigation on the NDCs.

Finally, contributions from the participants focused on Africa’s self-reliance on the advancement and implementation of NDCs. It was recommended that African countries should mobilize their own resources to implement the NDCs. This will include funding researches through own resources to produce own data; enhance capacity and creation of Africa information hub.
5.4. UNFCCC Talanoa Dialogue

The session moderator, Augustine Njamshi from Africa Coalition for Sustainable Energy and Access (ACSEA), provided a brief overview of the Talanoa Dialogue. The dialogue is different from others in that it involves discussions from all concerned parties, provide grounds for reaching genuine consensus and it is open-minded. The dialogue is guided by three (3) questions; where are we; where do we want to go; and how do we get there. Then after, two presentations were given subsequently.

5.4.1. Presentations

Mr. Linus Mofor from UNECA shared the statement of submission from the “African Climate Talks” to the Talanoa dialogue. Key issues from the statement were on UNFCCC processes with special focus on emission reduction; climate finance mechanisms to learn lessons from more successful multilateral agreements such as the Montreal Protocol; engaging African knowledge system including integration of indigenous knowledge; ‘Thinking big’; investment on CIS; as well as enhance youth engagement, capacity and coordination.

Ms. Yamide Dagnet from World Resource Institute presented on ‘Elements of an ideal global framework for the implementation of the Paris Agreement to be delivered in COP24’. She began by outlining foreseeable opportunities from 2018 to 2050 in our effort to reach net-zero emission and climate resilience. The opportunities include adoption of the Paris Agreement ‘rulebook’, leaders’ summit on sustainable development and climate; enhanced NDCs and non-state action; as well as global stocktake; delivery of initial NDCs and SDGs. She went on to explain about the cycle of implementation and ambition which was divided into three ongoing processes of plan, implement and review. She further outlined the opportunities provided by the Talanoa dialogue which are take stock based on latest scientific information; review of collective efforts and collective progress already made (including the efforts of non-state actors); identify and share lessons learned; naming and faming frontrunners; identify specific opportunities to enhanced ambition and accelerate implementation; align NDCs with long-term planning and development strategies; and springboard to UN Secretary General Summit and 2020 moment. She further highlighted on four areas of COP decisions, political declaration, Ministerial statements and Presidency report of the dialogue (Fig. 2).

5.4.2. Panel Discussion

Panelists then provided their inputs from different perspective with regard to opportunities and challenges associated with the UNFCCC Talanoa dialogue. Climate finance was mentioned to be vital in adapting to adverse impacts of climate change and therefore a call was made for more government
commitment and promotion of private sector investment. Moreover, a further call was made on unity among African countries to address the growing differentiation between developing and LDCs countries which cause divisions among African countries.

One of the opportunities that were shared was the Global Commission for Adaptation, which is expected to be launched on 16th October 2018. It has thirteen (13) convene countries and was commissioned by the former United Nations Secretary General, Ban Ki-Moon and Bill Gates. Out of the thirteen (13) convene countries, two (2) are from Africa; while out of eighteen (18) advisors, three (3) are from Africa; and out of twenty (20) research power house, four (4) are from Africa.

Young people, who were reported to constitute sixty five percent (65%) of the continent, were mentioned to be important stakeholders through their dynamism. The key message was on capacity building, innovative financing, building movement, actions, transparency and education for sustainable development.

5.5. Nexus between SDGs, Agenda 2063 and NDCs

5.5.1. Presentations

Mr. Nathan Cogswell from World Resource Institute presented a topic entitled “the nexus between Sustainable Development Goals and NDCs”. He started by providing overview of the NDC-SDG project with a proper mapping intersections between climate actions under NDCs and the 169 SDG targets under the Climate Watch database on SDG-NDC linkages. He added that from the SDG-NDC linkage, climate action were observed to be aligned with 154 of the 169 SDG targets. He then outlined short-term priority mitigation steps to achieve a 1.5°C world and the SDGs as sustain renewables growth, no new coal power plants, last fossil fuel car sold before 2035, develop a 1.5°C vision for aviation and shipping, new industrial installations low carbon after 2020, zero deforestation by 2020s, best practice in agriculture, new building zero emissions from 2020 and renovate 3-5% of buildings per year. He concluded by proving areas for building an integrated approach for NDC-SDG implementation which are institutional coordination, NDC and SDG cross-fertilization, NDC-SDG joint mainstreaming, integrated finance strategy and mutually-reinforcing monitoring processes.

Mr. Almami Dampha from AUC began by mentioning that most of Africans do not know about the continent’s Agenda 2063 “Africa We Want”. His presentation on Agenda 2063 elaborated the seven overarching aspirations and it is divided into five 10-years implementation period. The seven (7) aspirations of the Agenda 2063 which are: a prosperous Africa based on inclusive growth and sustainable development; an integrated continent, politically united and based on the ideals of Pan Africanism and the vision of Africa’s Renaissance; an Africa of good governance, democracy, respect for human rights, justice and the rule of law; a peaceful and secure Africa; an Africa with a strong cultural identity, common heritage, values and ethics; an Africa where development is people-driven, unleashing the potential of its women and youth; and Africa as a strong, united and influential global player and partner. He noted that domestic resource mobilization is prioritized and Agenda 2063 recognizes decentrality of addressing climate change. He added that to achieve the Agenda 2063, a nexus should be created with SDGs and NDCs. Also, proceeds to say that money from corruption and Illicit Financial Flows should be recovered and illegal exportation of natural resources should be cubed.

Ambassador Lumumba D’Aping delivered a passionate presentation on “the nexus and implementation of SDGs and NDCs”. He mentioned that Africa cannot develop/prosper if she does not have democratic states. He added that SDGs cannot be achieved unless Africa arrest civil strife, corruption and
worsening forms of dependency (Washington consensus and Beijing axis). He further added that climate change is about our very existence in the face of the earth and unless it is resolved there is no future for Africa. The strategic intent of the Paris Agreement would have been noble if it was legally binding. However, the agreement caters for 3-4°C, which is not enough for Africa to celebrate. Africa requires a global goal of not more than 1°C. Africa, as we know it, will not be there in 2063. Paris Agreement is a normative rhetorical and all heads of state must step up and take climate actions. Head of states of this continent must call for re-writing of the agreement to take stock of our reality. He concluded by saying that “We should not accept to become the global climate ghetto”.

5.5.2. Panel Discussion

The discussion highlighted a concern in terms of the growing burden of costs while resources mobilized to address climate change are very limited. It was pointed out that 2% of Africa GDP is going to adaptation, which means diverting funds from development investment. Also, Africa mobilises about US$ 200 million a year while US $ 4.5 billion is needed.

A call was made to make use of existing tools such as ‘MAPS’ to integrate NDCs and SDGs and make use of peer-to-peer learning which has proved to work in African context. Also, importantly ensuring multi-stakeholders engagement is key by keeping the dialogue open to all actors. A specific recommendation was also made to the AUC to create a climate change commission not only to demonstrate commitment but also to specifically address adverse impacts of climate change.
6. SUBTHEME 2: CLIMATE INFORMATION SERVICES IN SUPPORT OF NDCs

6.1. Background

Climate Information Services (CIS) provide science-based and user-specific information relating to past, present and potential future climate for decision-making support in sectors affected by climate on global, regional and local scales. They also connect natural science and socioeconomic research with practice and help society to cope with climate variability and change through the transformation of climate-related data, together with other relevant information, into customized products such as projections, trends, economic analysis and services to user communities in various sectors. Such services involve high-quality data and derivatives (e.g., prediction, products and advisories) from national and international databases on temperature, rainfall, wind, soil moisture and ocean conditions, as well as maps, risk and vulnerability analyses, assessments and long-term projections and scenarios.

Factoring CIS into policy, planning and practices is crucial for Africa to achieve its development aspirations for enhanced trade competitiveness, reduced poverty and sustainable economic growth. Accelerating the uptake of climate information and services therefore requires an enabling environment for substantive investment in their production and uptake, supported by a compelling case for the socioeconomic benefits (SEB) of such investment. The key barrier to managing current and future climate risks is the limited availability of accessible, reliable and relevant weather and climate information by end users. The mismatch between the information available and what is needed to support on-the-ground decision-making is another barrier that reduces resilience to climate risk and thereby weaken adaptation efforts. The NDCs of most African, and Latin American and the Caribbean countries make reference to the need for climate information and services for effective implementation of their climate actions and mainstreaming climate change into development planning. This indicates the degree to which developing countries are concerned with the use of climate information and services and underscores the urgent need for scientific information on climate variability, trends and extremes in these countries.

Innovative ways of delivering CIS initiatives that provide science-informed solutions are therefore vital for the effective implementation of the Paris Agreement, Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Africa. Investment in the deployment of robust climate information and services delivery systems for the effective implementation of nationally determined contributions and associated mechanisms established through the global climate governance processes will be crucial. The focus of CIS subtheme is to create a platform for promoting the importance of climate information services in Africa’s development agenda, human well-being and economic prosperity, with the ultimate goal of increasing the uptake and use of CIS. The subtheme also consisted of the Solutions Forum, a marketplace of ideas and opportunity for civil society, experts, academia, the private sector and other stakeholders to contribute their solutions to the long-standing challenges of climate change for Africa. Participants under this subtheme discussed the IPCC Special Report on 1.5 °C Global Warming under the Prof. Godwin Olu Patrick Obasi memorial lecture; the roles of CIS in implementing NDCs as well as the SEB of CIS to explore the importance of CIS in support of African NDCs.
6.2. Prof. Godwin Olu Patrick Obasi Memorial Lecture

6.2.1. IPCC Special Report on 1.5 °C Global Warming

A presentation on the recently released “IPCC Special Report on 1.5 °C Global Warming” was made by Professor Yacob Mulugeta, IPCC Lead Author from the University College London. He began by outlining that the report was prepared by ninety (90) authors from forty (40) countries, with 133 contributing authors, 6,000 studies, 1,113 reviewers and 42,001 comments.

The report indicates that since pre-industries times, human activities have caused approximately 1°C of global warming. With current rate, the world would reach 1.5°C between 2030 and 2052 but past emissions alone do not commit the world to 1.5°C. On the impacts on the 1.5°C compared to 2°C; there will be less extreme weather; 10 centimeter lower on global sea level rise with 10 million people fewer exposed to risk of rising seas; 50% less of global population exposed to increased water shortage; lower impacts to biodiversity and species; and smaller reduction of yields of maize, rice and wheat.

He added that in order to limit global warming to 1.5°C, carbon dioxide emissions should fall by about 45% by 2030 (from 2010 levels) compared to 20% for 2°C. While to limit warming to 1.5°C, carbon dioxide emissions would need to reach ‘net zero’ around 2050 compared to around 2075 for 2°C. Limiting warming to 1.5°C would require changes on an unprecedented scale including deep emissions cuts in all sectors, a range of technologies, behavioural changes, and increase investment in low carbon options. Progress in renewables would need to be mirrored in other sectors and start taking carbon dioxide out of the atmosphere.

6.2.2. Biography of Prof. Godwin Patrick Obasi

Mr. Mark Majodina from World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) later provided the keynote presentation on “Prof. Godwin Patrick Obasi Biography”. He mentioned that the first memorial lecture was done during CCDA VI. The lectures are conducted in his honour of works done at WMO. He mentioned that Prof. Obasi was among the conceivers of IPCC to which came to being in 1988. The two important lessons that could be learnt from the late Prof Obasi are ‘selflessness’ and ‘commitment’ to the African continent.

6.2.3. Panel Discussion

The above two presentations followed by the panel discussion. The panelists emphasized on the importance of genuine investment on researches, researchers, and tools for weather/climate observations and analysis such as super computers. Also, Africa needs to assess and find out how the 1.5°C and 2°C means to African context (including for each region of Africa and their differences). A permanent group of Africa scientists should be created to conduct such tasks. A concern was raised on the lack of inclusion and diversity of the IPCC report whereby Europe had contributed 51% while Africa had only 3%. African countries that contributed the least should have space to contribute on the report as it is not all about science but also politics. A consensus recommendation was reached to establish a Center of Excellency on Prof. Obasi’s name to honor his legacy. Moreover, agreement was reached to have a specific initiative to maintain and groom young scientists to step in his shoes.
6.3. The Role of CIS in the Implementation of NDCs

6.3.1. Presentation

Ms. Euster Kibona from FORUMCC presented on the “role of CIS in implementation of NDCs”. She began by highlighting that climate services provide science-based and user-specific information relating to past, present and potential future climates and address each sector affected by climate at a global, regional and local level. She added that countries need to do informed decisions in sectors sensitive to climate in order to give rise to both substantial economic benefits and sustainable development. This can not only save lives and preserve assets but also enhance safety, agricultural productivity and water security. Effective development and use of climate services can serve as a valuable aid to decision-making in many economic and social sectors.

She then outlined challenges which include packaging of climate information in easily understood form; dissemination to all stakeholders in both urban and rural areas; message is intermittent as humans needs continuous bombarded by a consistent message from multiple sources for a change in behavior; climate data is too coarse and not representative of agro-ecological conditions and need to look at spatial distributions of agro-meteorological stations; lack of confidence in data especially in short- and long-term predictability; short time window where information is provided; and data limited to temperature and rainfall.

She concluded by mentioning the roles that CSOs can play in the process. CSOs might act as bridge between research institutions and the population leading to a more direct dialogue; giving voice to the most vulnerable groups through advocacy processes; promoting a participatory and inclusive disaster risk reduction approach; and actively participating in inter-institutional coordination at local and national levels.

6.3.2. Panel Discussion

The panelists and participants acknowledged importance of CIS to support informed decisions especially after the release of the IPCC report. Africa needs data to develop comprehensive CIS. This will help in understanding specifically how global warming is affecting African economy. Also, they echoed the importance of well packing information and ensure wide dissemination to all stakeholders to address the existing gap. One of the standout recommendations was on strengthening existing meteorological agencies in African countries to produce accurate information to inform planning and decision-making process.

6.4. Socio Economic Benefits (SEB) of CIS

6.4.1. Modeling SEB of CIS for Disaster Risk Reduction

Dr. Bradwel Garanganga from Southern Africa Development Community presented on the modeling Socio Economic Benefits (SEB) of CIS for disasters risk reduction. He began by pointing out that global costs of natural disasters have risen significantly with a 15-fold increase between the 1950s and 1990s. During the 1990s, major natural catastrophes are reported to have resulted in economic losses averaging an estimated US$ 66 billion per annum. It is also estimated that in developing nations losses are typically 10-14 % of GDP. He then explained the SEB planning processes and rationale for SEB analysis - the SEB of CIS are many and varied, some are direct such as weather information, some indirect such as higher yield and some are induced such as higher tax revenues.

He concluded by providing recommendations as way forward, these are need for: (i) appropriate investments in CIS to make it more effective and more efficient to benefit communities better; (ii)
pilot projects in partnerships with research institutions/universities and RCC in order to refine the SEB on CIS models; (iii) risk mapping need to be carried out at sub-regional and national levels across Sub Saharan Africa; (iv) comprehensive outreach programmes to improve utilization of CIS and advocacy for investments in CIS; and (v) comprehensive training/outreach to be organized for the specific sector professionals at sub-regional and national level.

6.4.2. Panel discussion

The panelists and participants lauded the SEB initiative on CIS. It was also observed that it is important to address the challenge of identification and dissemination of information as unequal access to CIS will mostly affect women. A call was made to document sex disaggregated data to inform policy. Cooperation among and within different sectors and stakeholders is needed for a better uptake and use of CIS in the decision making process. Moreover, participants agreed that the Climate Information Services is receiving huge interest by the private sector than before and they are mostly interested in the entire value chain. Therefore, business models that are mutually beneficial should be explored.
7. **SUBTHEME 3: CLIMATE FINANCE FOR IMPLEMENTING NDCs**

7.1. **Background**

In 2009, at the fifteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC, developed countries, for the first time, proposed quantifying financing goals and promised to provide $30 billion of fast-start finance during the period 2010-2012. They later pledged to contribute finance amounting to $100 billion annually by 2020. There is, however, no agreement on how developed countries will share the financing responsibility in the future and no clear roadmap towards the realization of that annual amount by 2020. The withdrawal of the United States of America from the Paris Agreement will also have significant implications for already inadequate, unpredictable and difficult-to-access climate finance.

The implementation of the NDCs in Africa presents unique challenges that need to be addressed urgently. In general, African countries lack adequate climate information and services to inform the policy process. Financing for action on NDCs from both conditional and unconditional sources is limited. Climate change remains marginal in national policy and development discourse, overtaken by other pressing developmental priorities such as poverty eradication, thus ensuring a continuing need to mainstream climate change into all sectors of the economy. Hence, participants under this subtheme discussed climate finance for the implementation of NDCs with special emphasis on sources of finance and access strategies in a climate-constrained and divided world and landscape of African climate financial flows.

7.2. **Climate Finance**

7.2.1. **Sources of Finance and Access Strategies in a Climate-Constrained and Divided World**

Mr. Paul Stevers from Think Renewables Group began the session by presenting on the ‘sources of finance and access strategies in a climate-constrained and divided world’. He outlined examples of major sources of climate finance from investors’ institutions and initiatives. He pointed out that investors are in need of ‘bankable projects’ but there is serious shortage. He then provided remedies to address that through funding for proposal preparation and related work; build capacity in proposal development ecosystem; and increase capacity in African governments to facilitate renewable energy and water projects.

He further outlined areas towards unlocking access to innovative funding and finance. These are crowd funding/equity, projects aggregation, guarantee backed debt funding (local currency), green bond as refinance instrument, exchange traded fund and result/output based funding (securitization). He concluded by recommending to have one full ‘Climate Finance Day - Africa’. This should be designed to create awareness about sources of climate financing and outline some strategies to access this funding.

7.2.2. **Landscape of African Climate Financial Flows**

Another presentation was presented by Ms. Thuli Makama from Oil Change International. The focus was on ‘Landscape of African climate financial flows: key donors, sectors and countries’. She began by pointing out that adaptation is important for Africa while mitigation is also so much. She added that energy is key for Africa and explained the type of energy infrastructure that received support for the period 2014 – 2016.
Nearly sixty percent (60%) of the public finance for energy in Africa went to fossil fuels with an annual average of USD 11.7 billion; while Clean energy projects received 18 percent of public energy finance (not including large hydropower). On the providers, China provided the largest volumes of public finance averaging about USD 5.1 billion per year but nearly three quarters (¾) of Chinese finance went toward upstream oil and gas infrastructure and while about thirteen percent (13%) went toward coal-fired power generation. In total, over half (58.9%) went to fossils while clean energy received 18.3% only and the rest goes to large hydropower (5.5%), electricity transmission and distribution (10.4%), other and nuclear (6.9%).

7.2.3. Discussants’ Contributions and Plenary Discussion

The discussants shared a number of important contributions on the climate finance architecture. A shared concern was on majority of funding being made to mitigation while adaptation is the priority for Africa. Confusion was also observed whereby those who have money say ‘there is no bankable projects’ while those who need money say ‘there is no money’. A joint message was made on advocating for local currency funding to avoid loss on foreign fund exchange rate.

A call for joint engagement between CSOs and government was made to leverage on the existing expertise. Also, GCF (with no fixed finance figure) seemed as still important fund despite its challenges. From the plenary discussion, participants pointed some important issues including the domestic resource mobilization needs to be intensified; enhance skills for implementation of small and large projects with the latter seems to be of much challenge; and mainstreaming of gender issues in all projects.
8. BREAKOUT SESSION

8.1. Advancing the Implementation of NDCs in Africa

The chair provided context for the session and a brief overview of the NDC in Africa. He then provided some question for the presenters and participants to consider during the session. These were ‘how is the environment policy?’, ‘is it conducive for investment to take place?’, or ‘are there any gaps?’

Mr. Jean-Paul Brice Affana from Germanwatch looked at the climate finance perspective of the NDC implementation. He mentioned that sources of finance need to be aligned with adaptation and mitigation. Significant funds are needed to achieve the NDCs, around US $ 60 by 2050; while costs of adapting could rise to between US $ 250-500 per year by 2050. He later recommended countries to make use of existing opportunities such as NDC partnership which is a coalition of countries and institutions working to mobilize support. Also, make use of direct access modalities and support to readiness.

Mr. Augustine Njamshi from Africa Coalition for Sustainable Energy and Access (ACSEA) highlighted that adaptation remains a key priority option for African NDCs. He added that African NDCs were conditional, they depend on external support, while the funds are not forthcoming. This makes it highly likely to for the NDCs not to be achieved. He recommended that Africa countries should concentrate on adaptation related NDCs while waiting for finances to do the mitigation work. Also, on market mechanism, as one of the financing sources, Africans should be prepared before going for the option.

The discussion from participants focused on both, the existing challenges that hinder the implementation of the NDCs in Africa and opportunities and recommendations that will help support implementation. Inadequate infrastructure, capacity, finance and vagueness of existing NDCs were outlined to be some of the challenges; while climate finance mobilization, coordination, stakeholders’ engagement, awareness to local government and CSOs, and integration of indigenous knowledge with scientific knowledge and technologies were highlighted as important for advancing the implementation of the NDCs in Africa.

8.2. Climate Information and Services in Support of the NDCs

The chair opened the session by outlining objectives that will guide the session. These were discussion of CIS in support of NDC; concrete recommendations on where we want to go with NDCs; how do we help governments to set measurable goals within their statements; and accountability of governments.

Dr. Evans Gichana from Kisumu county government stressed that the power of information lays in its ability to be accessible, relevant, affordable, accurate, timely and resourceful in decision making. He gave example from Kisumu county where they are planning to construct a modern climate information, innovation and resource centre that link farmers with data and giving them up-to-date information. They are also using local media to pass information.

Razafimanantsoa Nandrianina Lalaina from Gasy Youth UP pointed that young people’s needs should to be taken into account to address challenges of the constituents. The young people should not be treated as a homogenic group as they have diverse needs. While investment should be made to infrastructure and institutions, enhanced coordination and linkages between data and policy, stakeholder, utilize existing expertise are crucial.
Participants later called for more investment on climate information at the meteorological department. They also called on reviving school weather stations and make them part and parcel of the community. It was also noted that scientists are not good communicators and therefore there is a need to train interface communicators that can understand scientists’ language and to translate it to local communities. The session came up with four (4) recommendations which are (i) governments must rethink their restrictive policies in accessing climate information; (ii) information must be made user-friendly, consumable and useful; (iii) climate information services should take a rights-based approach; and (iv) climate change information should be demand-driven; and communities can provide information too.

8.3. Climate Finance: Sources and Access Strategies

It was highlighted by Amy Galland from Empower Venture that the amount of climate finance needed in US $ 2.4 trillion per year through 2035 while current investment is only half of the amount. This is compounded by additional gap of US $ 2.5 trillion in financing SDGs in developing countries. She then pointed out that same donors are funding both sustainable and unsustainable solutions which send mixed signals for policy makers. She provided a breakdown of investment from public finance from 2014 – 2016 whereby fossil fuels took almost 60% while clean energy was 18%, access to energy took almost 11% and remaining went to large hydro and other (including nuclear). China was the major provider of the funds for fossils fuels investment in Africa.

Mr. Paul Stevers from Think Renewables Group outlined examples of major sources of climate finance from investors’ institutions and initiatives. He pointed out that investors are in need of ‘bankable projects’ but there is serious lack of ‘bankable projects’. He later provided remedies to address the problem of bankable projects through availing funds for proposal preparation and related work; capacity building in proposal development ecosystem; and increase capacity in African governments to facilitate renewable energy and water projects. He further outlined areas towards unlocking access to innovative funding and finance. These are crowd funding/equity, projects aggregation, guarantee backed debt funding (local currency), green bond as refinance instrument, exchange traded fund and result/output based funding (securitization).

Neha Mathew-Shah indicated that key players on climate and energy finance are the international financial institutions which include World Bank (WB), Asian Development Bank, International Monetary Fund and International Finance Cooperation. The added that advocacy should focus on shift of energy investments to clean energy and expansion of clean energy access by investing in distributed clean energy.

Mr. Zephania Kivungi provided a snapshot of the sources of climate finance from both convention-based and others. Under the convention, it included global environment facility (GEF), adaptation fund (AF) and GCF; while other sources included bilateral and philanthropic, public resources and private sector (corporate and individual). He recommended that African countries need to get hands dirty and do the work (brokerage has failed Africa); focus on transformation (once and for all); leverage on co-finance (government budget and private sector); CSOs must stop fence sitting; private sector must arise; and we should focus on resilience and will have less desperation for external funding.
9. **PARALLEL SESSION**

9.1. **Geoengineering and Carbon Capture**

The chair and presenter of the session, Kai Uwe B Schmidt from Carnegie Climate Geoengineering Governance Initiative (C2G2) shared on the work the initiative is doing on governance of solar engineering and carbon removal. He began by highlighting the challenges which are science on large scale removal and solar radiation management; pathways/scenarios (IPCC AR5) include large R; and precautionary and Risks management (cost and potential benefits, acceptability and takes time).

The initiative mission is to catalyze the creation of effective governance; shift the conversation from science to policy; encourage a broader, society-wide discussion; impartial (not for or against a technology and outcome of decisions regarding them); and no decision without good governance (knowledge, participation, reporting, decision making). The initiative also has three priorities which are governance of solar geoengineering; governance of research; and governance of carbon removal technologies. The technologies are per below extract from the presentation slide:

He concluded by providing recommendations for next steps. These are more transdisciplinary and geographically diverse research; common assessment principles or metrics; Comprehensive quantitative analysis of risks and benefits; more social science and humanities research; integrated policy impact assessments for policy design; and governance of research and any potential future deployment.

From the discussion; the presented ideas were welcome. It was recognized that they are at the initial stages (ideas) and may not be feasible at the moment. The thinking should still continue to consider options available to deal with anthropogenic emissions.


9.2. **The Weather and Climate Information Services for Africa (WISER)**

The chair for the session began by providing a brief introduction on the Weather and Climate Information Services for Africa (WISER) project. The project focuses on provision of climate and weather information to various sectors of the economy. He further mentioned that there are major gaps in climate information, with only 13% observation existed in Africa. DFID is supporting the project to enhance provision of the services that looks at quality of information being released and
making that information accessible. The project also looks at the uptake and use of information at local, county, national and regional levels for planning purposes.

Mr. Frank Rutabingwa, senior natural resources expert from UNECA mentioned that he coordinates WISER Pan-Africa component which creates an enabling environment for production use and uptake of climate information at continental level. He reiterated that the program for research should be from an African perspective moving away from the north centric research. Use information for building resilience.

Since the increasing complexity of climate change challenges requires that policy analysis support be provided to Africa’s decision makers in developing response strategies, the Pan-African Enabling Environment Component (PEEC) of WISER, led by the African Climate Policy Centre (ACPC), has conducted analytical studies to strengthen enabling environment for the generation, uptake and use of weather and climate information services (CIS) to support sustainable development in Africa. The participants agreed that the customized socioeconomic benefits models for disaster Risk Reduction and agriculture-water-energy nexus are useful tools for policy makers and practitioners to make evidence-based decisions on CIS investment. In this regard, the Pan-African component of WISER will launch the African-led small but potentially scalable research grant management facility and support Climate Research for Development (CR4D) research priorities. WISER East Africa component, on the other hand, supports more than nine projects in the sub-region to develop the capacity of relevant regional stakeholders and thereby deliver wide-reaching, usable, improved weather and climate products and services anchored on principles of co-production and user engagements.

The participants later proposed the following: need to consolidate all the WISER efforts and initiatives of different organizations under more continental platforms driven by AUC, UNECA and civil society for a better communication and reach out; need to build confidence and trust between the CIS producers, providers and end-users through improved co-production mechanism; and need to apply different channels of communication to different end users through a feedback mechanisms for effective flow of information.

9.3. Climate Information Services (CIS) Innovations

The session explored existing best practices, innovations, opportunities and challenges related to the climate information services with focus on agriculture. It was pointed out that challenges that hinder successful use of climate information services in adaptation of farm activities to climate change and climate variability are access, interpretation and usability. Two key factors driving such challenges to successful use of climate information services by most rural farmers are functional literacy of most farmers and appropriate delivery. For the climate information services to be beneficial, farmers seek for a tailor-made information at the lowest scale (farm level), readily usable information and ability to follow-up (two-way communication). Also, to ensure the climate information services sustainability; it is supposed to run on existing systems that are functioning in most rural communities which include community information centres, unit committees, youth groups and farmer unions.

The discussion from the floor came up with the following: it is important to link CIS to other means to make it more attractive; answer the question of who pays for the costs and how to minimize costs; tell people why are you providing the information and its rationale; and consider diverse set-up of community and sectors (beyond youth and agriculture only). Also, ensure information are accurate; Integration of indigenous knowledge into these science information; sustainability of the CIS by using existing structures.
9.4. Climate Research for Development (CR4D) in Africa

Dr. Yosef Amha, a researcher on agriculture, climate change and adaptation, provided a brief presentation on the WISER-funded CR4D research grant. He stated that CR4D is an African-led initiative to strengthen links between climate science research and climate information needs in support development planning in Africa. It is a partnership initiative between the ACPC of United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), the African Ministerial Conference on Meteorology (AMCOMET), the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), and the Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS). Under the WISER-PEEC, DFID supports a small but potentially scalable research grant management facility at the African Academy of Sciences, which will support the CR4D research priorities as defined by the CR4D Scientific Advisory Committee.

He further explained that the CR4D postdoctoral fellowship, managed through the African Academy of Sciences, designed to build a critical mass of African research leaders to lead science programmes independently at local and international levels, including the capacity to engage successfully with funders, policy makers, communities and other stakeholders, and to serve as mentors and supervisors for the next generation of researchers in Africa. According to his presentation, the research grant call will be developed along the three CR4D research thematic areas such as: (i) foundational climate science focusing on improved understanding of the underpinning drivers and dynamics of climate variability and change in Africa; (ii) impacts, information, translation, communication focusing on enhanced added-value in sub-seasonal to seasonal predictions; enhanced understanding and communication of climate impacts across five priority GFCS areas {agriculture, water, health, disaster risk reduction, and energy}, as well as migration, urbanization, marine and coastal zones, etc.; improved metrics and analytics for evaluation and validation of skills and uncertainties in forecasting and projecting future climate and impacts, including understanding communication theory, barriers and opportunities, and (iii) engagement with policy, development and decision communities focusing on improved assessment of the uptake, application and user value of climate and impact information by stakeholders and enhanced capacity for co-production including trans disciplinary research.

Participants later discussed and agreed that the proposed CR4D research grant shall ensure high quality technical and operational standards through transparent, high-quality, independent and objective research, with robust grant administration and management systems. It shall focus on demand-driven research by identifying and prioritising demand from the user community across African climate science and climate policy communities. Efforts should be exerted to earn broader recognition within the African climate science community and other stakeholders. They later commended the initial support rendered by DFID but urged the CR4D Secretariat to work strongly in ensuring the longevity and scalability of the research grant beyond fellowship.

9.5. Migration, Mobility, Conflict, Security and Climate Nexus

Professor Henry Mutembei from Wangari Maathai Institute for Peace and Environmental Studies made a presentation on migration, mobility, conflict and security in the context of climate nexus. He began by highlighting about the institute and its work which focused on environment governance. He went on to briefly explain about human migration, its drivers and consequences. The drivers include lack of economic opportunities, insecurity and environmental pressure such as drought and floods; while consequences include shifts in global demographics, changes in local development, and shifts in ecosystems.

He expressed concerns on increasing burden of carrying capacity which takes the earth to a tipping point of catastrophes. He outlined the ‘planet boundaries’ that if crossed the world will reach to such
tipping point of catastrophes. These were on climate change with 1.5ºC threshold, ozone depletion, atmospheric aerosol loading, ocean acidification, global fresh water use, chemical pollution, land system change, rate of biodiversity loss and biochemical loading. He concluded by highlighting on what the institute is doing to support address such challenges. These include developing capacity on climate governance for all stakeholders; creating stewards for cultures of Peace; conduct climate change research to inform and advice policy; work with governments, civil society, NGOs and communities to find lasting solutions to conflict and insecurity through sharing successful case studies, build global partnerships for peace building, build evidence base to inform policy and provide advocacy.

The panelists concur that climate change and environment challenges are one of or the major cause of the migration. Extreme weather events were observed to result to larger number of human displacement compared to conflicts and violence. Therefore, a call was made to look at climate change and environment issues from a civil right and social justice perspective. From the discussion, it was also highlighted that migration is an adaptation strategy but some indicated that it is a temporary one. Therefore, to avoid conflicts, there is a need for a mechanism to regulate the migration including by creating migration routes and have negotiations with communities for access of resources. Also, to strengthen early warning systems to create resilience, regulating migration, creating an environment for access to social amenities and diversification of livelihood.
10. REPORTS ON PRE-EVENTS, CONFERENCE THEMES AND BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Representatives from the six (6) pre-events presented the summary of the outcomes for each event. The pre-event were: Africa youth intergenerational justice conference; Pan-African conference on Green Climate Fund CSOs readiness; Agriculture, food security, land and climate change; Africa FCPF regional exchange meeting; Pan-African private sector role in the transition to low carbon development; and First national climate governance conference. The summary for each event can be found by clicking here.
11. CLOSING REMARKS

Mr. John Bideri, Chair, PACJA
He thanked the organizers, participants, host country and hotel management for the success of the conference. He asked the participants to go back and take actions at their local level by using recommendations to create a difference and impact in different communities, individuals, sub-national, national and regional level. He then urged for political will and structures that can mobilize resources internally which he consider possible and congratulated the AU for showing the way by mobilizing two third (2/3) of its budget. He further called upon the AU to consider having climate change as a focal area. He concluded by thanking the guest of honour, Hon. Mohammed Elmi, for creating time and showing commitment since the start of the conference.

Mr. James Murumbedzi, UNECA, Ethiopia
He acknowledged respective institutions and individuals who played a part in organizing the conference. He pointed out that the conference was a productive and successful one. It provided platform for policy makers, scientists, communities and civil society. He concluded by thanking the government of Republic of Kenya for providing all protocols and requested the guest of honour to convey a message to the high office in Kenya.

Ms. Olushola Olayide, African Union Commission, Ethiopia
She began by thanking the guest of honour, Hon. Mohammed Elmi, for the commitment since the start of the conference. She also thanked all participants and organisers of the conference for the educative and informative sessions. She assured them that all recommendations have been noted by the African Union Commission and urged that everyone should now play their part in taking the recommendations forward.

Hon. Mohammed Elmi, CAS, Ministry of Environment and Forestry, Kenya
He thanked the organisers (ClimateDev partners ACPC-UNECA, AfDB and AUC and PACJA) for choosing Kenya as host for the conference and inviting the government as the stakeholder for the conference. He stressed on the importance of continuing networking as it is important in addressing climate change. The findings from IPCC underlie what has been happening throughout the conference therefore governments must take drastic actions. Africa is suffering most but it has contributed very little. He pointed out that people, society and economies face disruptions that hamper from attaining economic blueprint, Agenda 2063. He urged the need to ensure the Paris ‘rule book’ reflects the urgency of working towards climate actions and Africa must act no matter what comes after the UNFCCC COP24 and the adoption of the ‘rule book’. He concluded by calling for African governments to act and speak in one voice. He then officially closed the seventh Climate Change and Development in Africa conference (CCDA VII).
12. KEY MESSAGES FROM THE CONFERENCE

The seventh Climate Change and Development in Africa Conference (CCDA VII) provided a physical platform to discuss diverse issues under the main theme of “Policies and actions for effective implementation of the Paris Agreement for resilient economies in Africa”.

- Under the first subtheme, participants agreed that African NDCs have (a) weak strategic alignment with their own national development plans and the wider SDGs; (b) less opportunities for maximizing co-benefit; and (c) limited description of monitoring, review and reporting processes of climate actions. Researchers and policy makers should, therefore, work closely to unpack the Paris Agreement in the African context by conducting a comprehensive analysis on their GHG emission reduction targets, the costs of implementation, a range of technology’s needs, increase investment in low carbon options, needed behavioral changes, innovative climate finance, capacity development needs, and others. Moreover, strong planning, implementation, monitoring and reporting mechanisms are needed to track progresses on the Paris Agreement and sustainable development goals.

- Under the second subtheme, participants acknowledged the need for enhanced uptake and use of climate information services in development planning, policy and practice, including NDCs in Africa. Hence, existing meteorological agencies shall be strengthened in Africa to produce, unpack and disseminate CIS that are tailor-made and at the lowest scale, readily usable and have ability to follow-up (two-way communication). Moreover, appropriate trainings are needed for interface communicators (i.e., those who understood scientists’ language and translate it to local communities) for better impact. CIS has also received a huge interest by the private sector than before and most are interested in the entire value chain where scientists should explore business models that are mutually beneficial.

- Under the third subtheme, participants recognized how climate finance is vital in address adverse impacts of climate change and emission reduction. Hence, African countries should enhance their capacity in developing bankable adaptation and mitigation proposals to strategically tap on the existing international/bilateral funds while innovatively mobilize their own domestic resources. The latter resources shall also fund researches that aimed at producing data, creating Africa information hub and building capacity.

At the end of the three-day deliberation, participants urged African researchers, policy makers and other relevant stakeholders to work closely and called them to explore:

12.1. Possibilities contained in the Paris Agreement and the UNFCCC, the SDGs, Agenda 2063, the Addis Ababa Actions of the Third International Conference on Financing for Sustainable Development and other development frameworks to ensure that climate change is mainstreamed into all development processes;

12.2. Mechanisms to share experiences and challenges with NDCs preparedness in the context of the Talanoa dialogue;

12.3. Gender responsive policies, disaggregated data and integration of gender components into both adaptation and mitigation projects identified under NDCs;
12.4. Ways for enhanced uptake and use of Climate Information Services in development planning, policy and practice, including NDCs;

12.5. Opportunities for and challenges of private sector participation in the production and delivery of public goods, including climate information and services;

12.6. Integrated approach for co-designing, co-producing and co-communicating climate information services in support of the implementation of NDCs;

12.7. Policies, frameworks and mechanisms needed to secure climate finance from both international and domestic sources to implement NDCs;

12.8. Possibility to establish a ‘Climate Finance Day for Africa’ that creates awareness about sources of climate financing and outline some strategies to access existing funding;

12.9. Possibility to establish a ‘Center of Excellency’ to honour the legacy of Prof. Godwon Olu Patrick Obasi.