Climate change conversations, key issues and challenges for Africa

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Implementation of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) by nations and the offer of support by organizations such as

- UNDP (under the NDCs Support Programme)
- GCF: provision of finance to support NDCs. Countries devise an investment framework in alignment with the NDC. Must be a bankable proposal
- Adaptation Fund
Climate change phenomenon intensifying
- Cyclones in Africa - Idai and Kenneth
- Recent flooding in Sudan
- Fresh hurricanes threatening the US
The Amazon Forest fire crises
Wildfires are destroying the World’s largest tropical rainforest
It contributes to producing 20% of oxygen in the atmosphere
Plays a vital role in addressing the climate change challenge in terms of carbon sequestration
G7 has dedicated $20 million to fight the fire
A wake up call for Africa to properly preserve its rainforest
Congo Basin rainforest
Cross River Forest in Nigeria
Mao Forest in Kenya
REDD+ Programme

Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation

A form of UN mitigation intervention that provides incentives to local communities to keep their forests standing

UN-REDD Programme (UNDP, FAO, UNEP)

World Bank (Forest Carbon Partnership Forum)

In Nigeria, 3 states are implementing the program

Cross River State is now at the implementation phase

Ondo and Nasarawa states are in the Reddiness phase

A scopping mission is ongoing to select three more states to join the fray
Green Bond

A financial mechanism aimed at raising funding to implement “green” projects aimed at addressing the challenges of climate change.

Nigeria has successfully done this twice in the last couple of years and will soon be going back to capital market to raise its third Green Bond.

Kenya recently approved issuance of first Green Bond, which will raise 5 billion shillings or $48.45 million.
The Lake Chad crisis

It traverses several countries in West and Central Africa, and has shrunk alarmingly in recent decades due to climate change and related causes.

This has led to loss of ecosystems, land degradation (aridification), large scale displacement, loss of livelihood, food insecurity, and worsened the Boko Haram insurgency in the region, as well as the farmers-herders crisis.

Efforts are being made to restore the situation by recharging the drying lake from several waterbodies.
Regional Climate Weeks
These are being held to build momentum to the UN Secretary General’s Climate Action Summit in September in New York, and COP 25 in December in Chile
Africa held in Accra in March, Latin America and Caribbean held in Brazil August, and Asia-Pacific holds in September in Thailand
The outcomes so far centre around the implementation of the NDCs and to achieve goals of Paris Agreement
They have also been a platform to address localized and current climate change and sustainable development related challenges
- The role of civil society in these discussions / initiatives
- Community mobilization
- Monitoring and evaluation
- Designing proposals
- Awareness raising