



AAKNet



The Role of AAKNet in organizing & Communicating Information for Building Resilient Communities

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Global Adaptation Network (GAN)



www.africa.ganadapt.org



The CC Challenge for Africa

Africa's vulnerability to climate change and their causes is well established



The CC Challenge for Africa

Repeated cycles of climate induced disasters e.g. the Horn of Africa in 2011, and the Sahel last 2012.

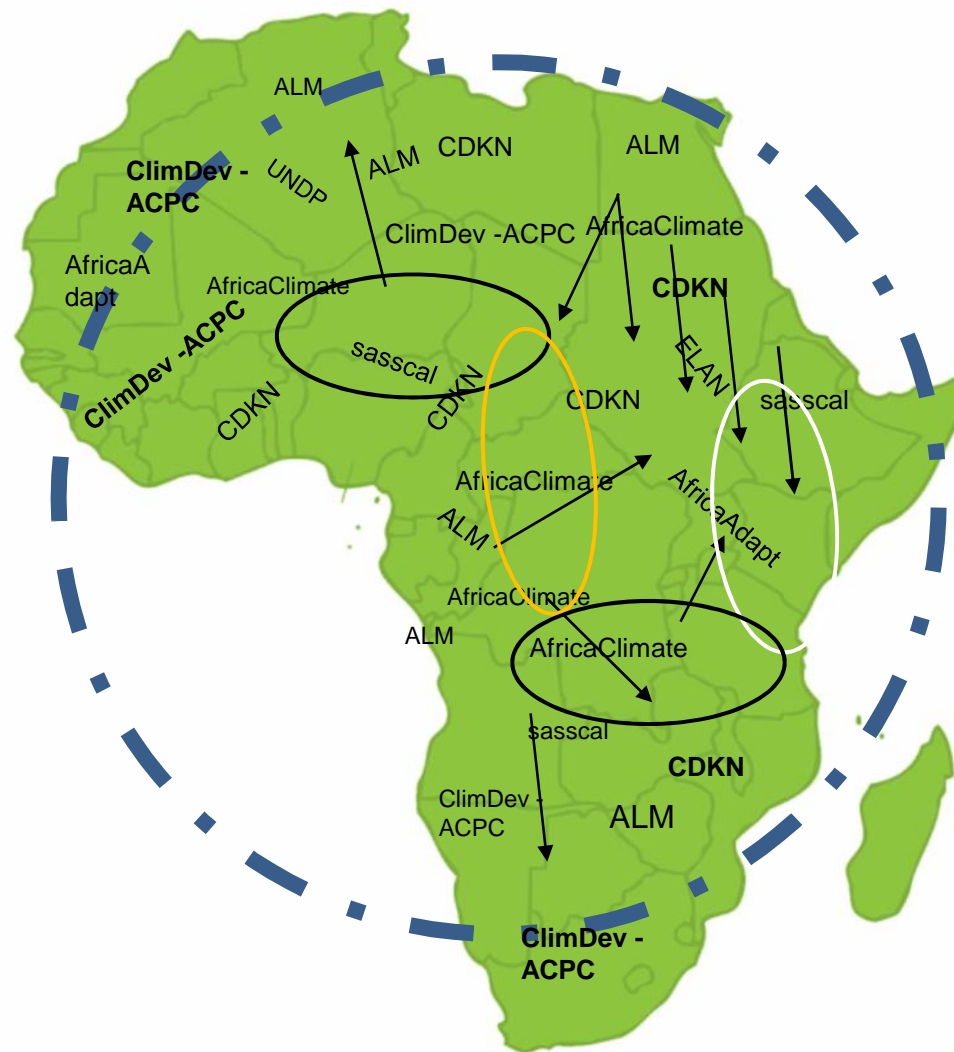


The CC Challenge for Africa

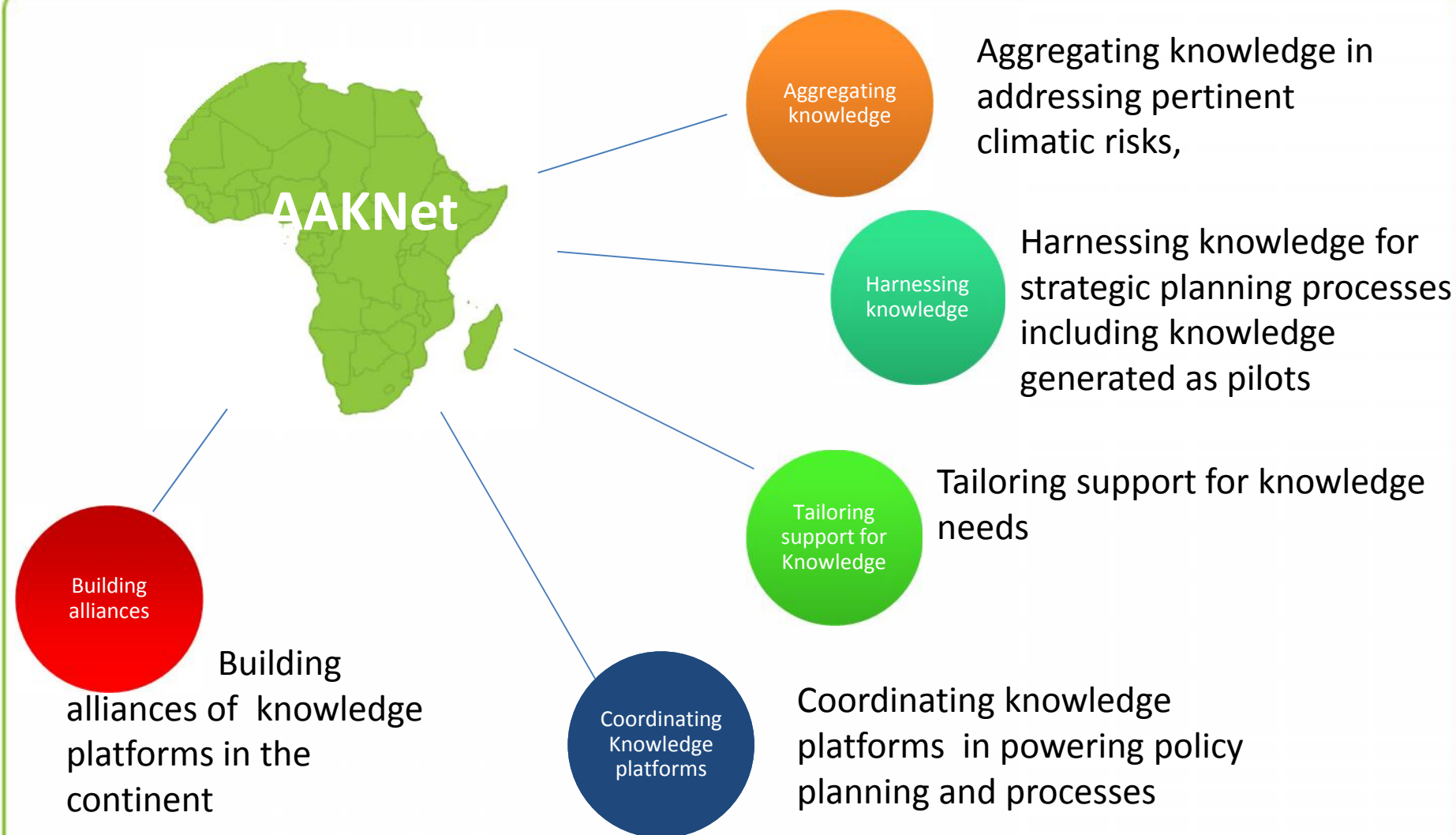
- Decisive action on building capacity for adaptation are therefore key priorities for sustainable development in Africa.
- Information and knowledge that span the interlinked stages of adaptation actions is urgently needed.



Adaptation Platforms in Africa



What is AAKNet/ Functions



AAKNet

- UNEP convened an Africa Adaptation Knowledge Network (AAKNet) workshop under the theme “Convening Adaptation Knowledge Networks and Platforms in Africa,” from 5-6 February 2013, in Nairobi, Kenya.
- The participating representatives from regional adaptation knowledge platforms agreed to adopt AAKNet as the continental network responsible for coordinating adaptation knowledge.



Lessons learnt in mobilizing adaptation knowledge in Africa

- In order to conserve CC information, there is need to invest in long term commitment such mainstreaming adaptation knowledge into school curriculums, probing into government statutory regulatory frameworks structures and policy and laws.
- CC Development tools should be embedded in long-term planning approaches and integrated in government decision making processes.
- Climate knowledge production requires trans-disciplinary research and high levels of collaboration across a fragmented regional higher education sector.
- Linking scientists and communities e.g. Universities equip future leaders in government, business and civil society and to respond to climate change through their pivotal role as centres of research, teaching, knowledge brokerage and societal empowerment.
- Identification of key players and potential stakeholders; initiation requires time, initial funding and coordination.
- Replicating projects in different countries and contexts to validate the Innovations and best practices.
- Market or sell the best practices from the project to key participants and other stakeholders and advocate for needed policy and regulatory changes.

Challenges in mobilizing knowledge

- Lack of information and accessibility to up-to-date e-tools.
- Lack of capacity for climate data collection, analysis and dissemination
- Lack of trans-disciplinary research and high levels of collaboration across a fragmented regional higher education sector
- Mismatch between grassroots institution to policy alignment. There is an overall lack in CC know how and specialist knowledge on the subject at local grass roots level.
- Intervention efforts of adaptation to climate change are not supported by well organized and systematic documentation. The existing information is often too scattered & general.
- Funding sustainability is a challenge.
- General Community level of CC awareness is low and less prioritized in the face of other pressures such as famine, basic sanitation & health.
- Translating research into practice: Ensuring coherent approach and engagement of key actors in defining adaptation knowledge needs at different levels.

Recommendations for ensuring that knowledge is accessible for all target audiences

- Prioritization of Community needs to be realistic to funding levels of AAKNet
- Development of result-based monitoring and evaluation strategy.
- Increasing the capacity building and training of trainers to ensure that mass dissemination of knowledge is achieved and also to allow for continued sustainability of projects.
- Invest in research on climate change adaptation innovations to continually inform the focus of education to address relevant problems in the society, develop better teaching and learning methods and resources.
- Recognize best practices for replication and integration into country and regional development policies.
- Mainstreaming climate change issue into country action and development plan.
- Promote integration of indigenous knowledge on climate change concerns.
- Lobby and advocate for enhancement and formulation of policies and regulation framework to address climate change concerns.



The screenshot shows the AAKNet Portal website. At the top left is the AAKNet logo. The main header features the text "AAK Net" and "Knowledge for Adaptation". To the right of the header are links for "SUBSCRIBE TO OUR NEWSLETTER", "CONTACT US", and "NEWS". Below the header is a search bar with the text "search...". A navigation menu contains links for "HOME", "ABOUT US", "PROJECTS", "THEMES", "COUNTRIES", "KNOWLEDGE BASE", "DISCUSSION FORUM", and "CONTACT US". The date "FRIDAY, 23 NOVEMBER 2012" is displayed below the navigation menu. The main content area features a large image of a woman in an orange shirt holding a plant, with the text "BUILDING RESILIENT FOOD SYSTEMS IN UGANDA" and a "READ MORE" button. To the right of this image is a "NEWS HIGHLIGHTS" section with two articles: "BEE KEEPING IN ETHIOPIA" and "HORN OF AFRICA DROUGHT NEEDS LONG TERM SOLUTION". The website also includes social media links for Twitter, Facebook, Google+, and YouTube on the right side.

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Thank you

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