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ECOWAS Climate Strategy: Managing Climate Extremes

Mr. Raoul KOUAME
Programme officer, Climate Change
Environment Directorate
ECOWAS Commission



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Presentation outline

1. Key points of the ECOWAS Regional Climate Strategy (RCS)
2. Implement the 2022-2030 action plan
3. Management of Extreme climate



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1. Key points of the ECOWAS Regional Climate Strategy (RCS)



Some background on the region

- A very dynamic area: 10 of the 15 Member States recorded an average growth of 5% or more during the period 2016-2019
- However, more than 40% of the population still lives in extreme poverty due to global economic and financial crises, food crises, security tensions in the Sahel and climate change.
- Low contribution to Global Warming: 1.8% of Global GHG Emissions. Our region is considered one of the world's climate hotspots which translates into:
 1. a strong alternation of wet and dry years since the 1990s, an observed warming faster than the global average, land and oceans, more frequent episodes of heat waves, heavy rainfall and floods during the years 2000, 2010, 2020,
 2. a warming that would reach +2°C in 2050, a drying up of the western part of the Sahel and a wetter eastern Sahel according to climate projections
- According to the most pessimistic scenarios: by 2060, an increase of + 2.3 degrees



Some background on the region

- At the energy level : The modification of precipitation patterns and the reduction of river basin flows which will affect the production and delivery of energy;
- The supply of fossil fuels, the production and transmission of thermal energy and hydroelectric energy will also be affected;
- The rate of access to electricity, which is 54% of the total population and 8% in rural areas, is among the lowest in the world, despite the almost unlimited potential of renewable energies, in particular solar energy
- At the agricultural level : Between 2001 and 2018, climatic conditions explain about 40% of the variation in cultivated land in West Africa.
- Other sectors: Water resources, marine ecosystems, coastal, forest, Sahelian zones, etc. socio-economic sectors: infrastructure , transport and mobility, industrial processes and product use, etc. . will be severely impacted
- Estimates predict a reduction in GDP of 3.7% and 11.7% by 2050. for a high warming scenario, with economic losses due to impacts on the agriculture and infrastructure sectors (transport, energy, buildings);



Development & adoption of RCS

- Regional climate Strategy initiated to tackle current and future impacts of CC in the region with support from European Union through GCCA+ Project implemented by Expertise France
- Alignment with African Union CC Strategy and NDCs
- Participatory process including consultations within ECOWAS and with Countries and other regional institutions
- Adopted on 3rd July 2022 in Accra by ECOWAS Council of Ministers along with the Climate finance access and mobilization Strategy



Objectives of the ECOWAS RCS

- The overall objective of the ECOWAS regional climate strategy is to support Member States in meeting the challenge of combating climate change, in particular in meeting their commitments under the Paris Agreement
- Strategic objectives:
 - Ensure the compatibility and coherence of the regional policy framework with the overall objectives of the Paris Agreement.
 - Developing anticipatory capacity and informed decision-making to manage current and future climate risks
 - Fostering an institutional and organisational paradigm shift on climate
 - Strengthen the capacity of ECOWAS and its Member States to implement policies and actions to combat climate change
 - Strengthen cooperation and solidarity between MS in dealing with CC
 - Promote approaches to mobilising endogenous and exogenous financial resources



The strategy presents expected results and sectoral priority actions by 2030:

Adaptation and mitigation components and sector coverage

Adaptation to the impacts of climate change through chapter 2: "towards a region resilient to the impacts and vulnerabilities linked to climate change":

- i. Agriculture, livestock, fishing and aquaculture
- ii. Energy
- iii. Transport and mobility
- iv. Environments, natural ecosystems and biodiversity
- v. Water resources
- vi. Coastal areas
- vii. Health
- viii. Climate services, hydro- meteorological and climatological systems , early warning systems and disaster risk management

Contribution to the mitigation of GHG emissions through chapter 3: "encouraging low-carbon development trajectories and fostering economic opportunities":

- i. Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Uses
- ii. Energy
- iii. Transport and mobility
- iv. Industrial processes and product use
- v. Waste



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2. Implement the 2022-2030 action plan



An action plan 2022-2030 has been developed to achieve expected results

Its effective implementation will rely on the mobilisation of USD 126.6 million (adaptation, mitigation and cross-cutting actions) targeting governance improving and Capacity building across the relevant sectors target in the strategy

Adaptation	Mitigation	Cross-cutting means of implementation
98 Actions 63,185,000 USD	73 Actions 32,135,000 USD	42 Actions 31,286,000 USD



Implementation mechanisms provided in RCS

- Each sectoral directorate of the ECOWAS Commission & other regional institutions contribute to the achievement of the expected results and therefore for the implementation of related actions.
- Establishment of a Climate Donors Group (CDG) by RCS
→ Create an enabling environment and facilitation the financing of the RCS by bringing together all donors from all sectors of the ECOWAS Commission
- The CDG → an integral part of the RCS implementation mechanism, is a coordination group of TFPs for the climate,



IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

It takes into account several elements including:

- ✓ Stakeholders and institutional arrangement (roles and responsibilities of each implementing actor)**
- ✓ The main performance indicators;**
- ✓ The monitoring, evaluation, reporting and review mechanism**
- ✓ Resources for implementing the strategy**
- ✓ The implementation schedule.**



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3. Management of Extreme climate



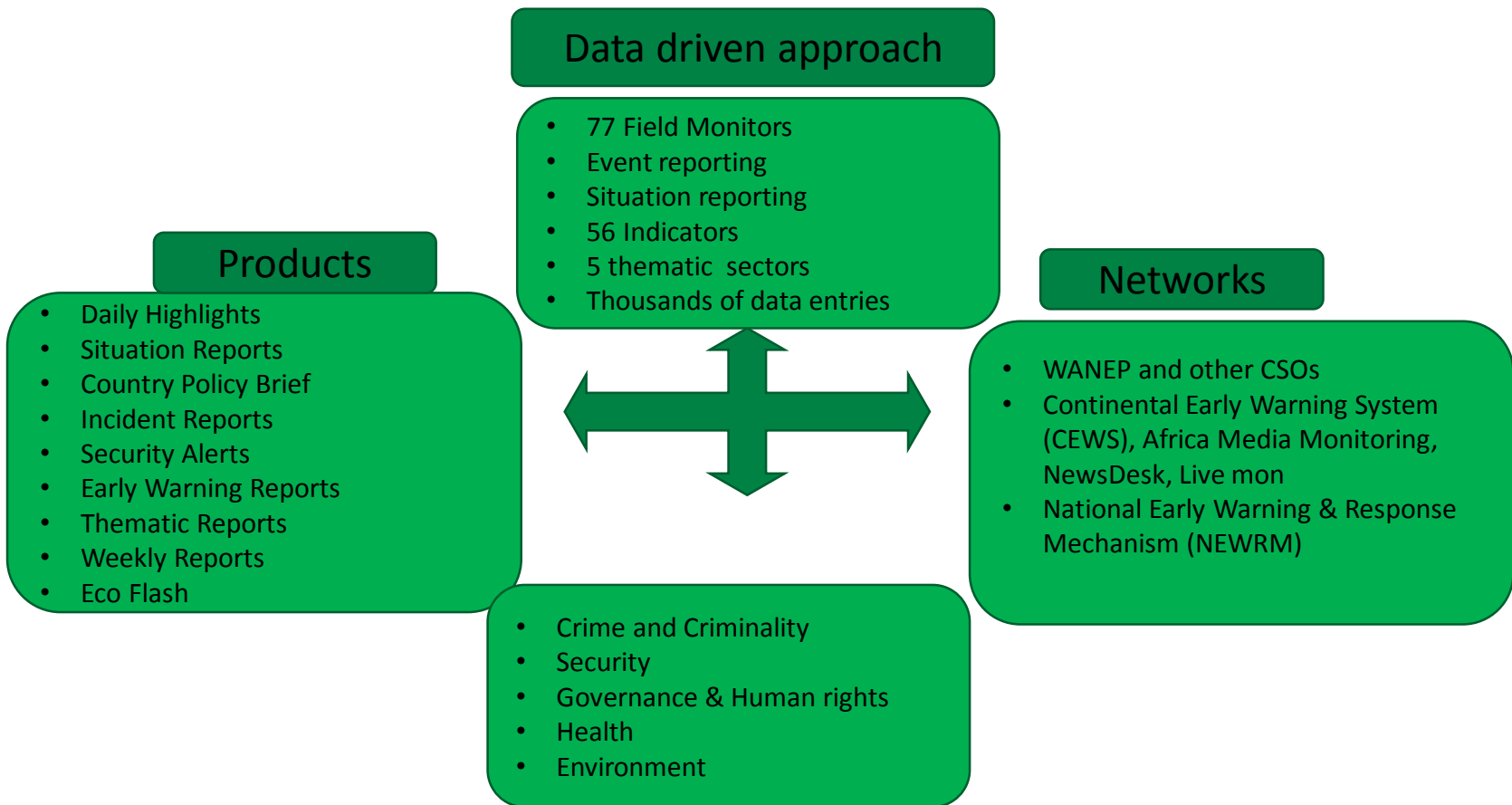
Related strategic instruments for climate extreme management

- ✓ Hydromet Initiative (2021) → need assessment and NFCS (support provided to all Member States)
- ✓ Regional Flood Strategy (2021) → Ongoing support from WB for the implementation
- ✓ Regional system for the prevention and management of food crises in AO (Harmonized framework for food and nutritional security) → regional food security reserve

*Close and strengthened collaboration with AGRYHMET –
Regional Climate Center for West Africa and Sahel*



ECOWAS Early Warning and Response Network (ECOWARN)





Other responses to the consequences of climate extremes

Through the Department in charge of Humanitarian and Social Affairs

- ✓ Flood response to Member States (total of 8.5 million USD of affected population)
- ✓ Support to persons affected by conflicts and instability (13 millions USD for 2024)



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Thank you
