



Name of Event: [Side Event] Activating Africa's Adaptive Capacity – Climate Change Challenges and Lessons from Africa Adaptation Programme

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Organizer: UNDP Africa Adaptation Programme (funded by the Government of Japan)

1) Outline

The Africa Adaptation Programme (AAP) is a comprehensive country-supportive adaptation initiative with the aim to lay the foundation for long-term investment to increase resilience to climate change and protect valuable development progress across the African continent. This side event linked AAP's climate change adaptation work to disaster risk reduction and showcased capacity-development results in Africa.

2) Key messages, outcomes, recommendations

- Minister Mizushima from the Japanese Permanent Mission in Geneva expressed the Government's high expectations of AAP and stressed the hope that this side event will build a momentum towards the successful outcome of COP17.
- Eng. Omedi Jura, Ministry of Environment and Mineral Resources, Kenya, showcased Kenya's experience with Climate Action Intelligence, technical tools that facilitate the gaining of clarity on 'who does what, when and where'. As a result, Kenya profits from an enhanced decision-making ability and an improved management of climate information.
- Dr. Mwebaza, Gender Expert, Kenya, argued that climate change and natural disasters is likely to magnify existing patterns of gender disadvantage. AAP's integrated gender approach supports countries to mainstream gender in national climate change response strategies and ensures the inclusion of gender in all AAP's capacity building programmes.
- Ms. Sandhu-Rojon, Resident Representative UNDP, Ghana, stated that Ghana needs to shift the national agenda from a disaster response approach to disaster

preparedness for which AAP's capacity building component is crucial. AAP brings all partners together in a coherent and comprehensive manner.

- Dr. Intsiful, Data and Information Expert AAP, illustrated how AAP ensures countries have access to the best available data and information on climate variability and impacts to facilitate rational decision making.

3) Conclusions

Cohesiveness and comprehensiveness, building bridges and bringing stakeholders together are essential in climate change adaptation. Examples have shown that preparedness actually does pay off; hope exists through addressing the status quo to enforce appropriate actions.