

## 4.0 Côte d'Ivoire

GDP	Gross Domestic Product
LDC	Least Developed Country
MEEF	Ministry of Environment, Water and Forests (Ministère de l'Environnement des Eaux et Forêts) – Côte d'Ivoire
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
USAID	United States Agency for International Development

### A. Adaptation Needs and Priorities

In the West African country of Côte d'Ivoire, climate change is projected to result in a decrease in rainfall and an increase in temperature for 2030 and 2100 (MEEF, 2010). Already, observations show a decrease in rainfall and a temperature increase between 1990 and 2000 in Côte d'Ivoire (MEEF, 2010). The decrease in rainfall is particularly significant in the northeastern, central and southwestern parts of the country (MEEF, 2010), and the impact of these changes is being felt by the country's biodiversity in Bouna Reserve, Abokouamekro Park, Marahoué Park, and Tai Park. It has also been linked to decreases in the production of cacao and coffee (MEEF, 2010).

Through its Second National Communication (2010), Côte d'Ivoire assessed and identified climate change impacts and coping measures for its key vulnerable sectors—particularly agriculture, water and health (MEEF, 2010). The Ivorian agriculture generates 27 per cent of the country's GDP, employs two-thirds of the active population and, together with the agro-industrial sector, provides 40 per cent of the country's export income (MEEF, 2010). It is acknowledge that the growth of importance of Côte d'Ivoire's agricultural sector has been at the cost of rapid deforestation (ALM, undated). Specific subsectors, such as coffee and cocoa production, are felt to be particularly vulnerable to climate change (MEEF, 2010). The vulnerability of Côte d'Ivoire's water sector is tied to its extended hydrographic network and four large rivers. Moreover, Côte d'Ivoire's population is highly vulnerable to various diseases related to climate variations and the country's tropical climate. Temperature variations have strong negative impacts on diseases including malaria, respiratory infection, diarrhea and malnutrition (MEEF, 2010). Adaptation priorities identified by Côte d'Ivoire in its key vulnerable sectors are presented in Table 1 below.

**Table 1: Adaptation priorities in Côte d'Ivoire's most vulnerable sectors (MEEF, 2010)**

Key Sector	Priority Action for Sector
Agriculture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Productivity and competitiveness improvement</li> <li>• Auto-sufficiency and food security</li> <li>• Diversification of agricultural products</li> <li>• Awareness raising</li> </ul>
Freshwater resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Healthy water access at an affordable cost</li> <li>• Eliminate water pollution</li> <li>• Emphasize economic development opportunities through water resources</li> </ul>
Human health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More research on climate change impacts on health and on access to health care</li> <li>• Awareness raising</li> <li>• Capacity building for health workers, decision makers and health systems</li> </ul>

## B. National Level Policies and Strategic Documents

Côte d'Ivoire released its Second National Communication in 2010. Announced in this document is a commitment to elaborate a climate change adaptation strategy for the country (MEEF, 2010). Governmental entities (the National Environmental Agency and the National Environmental Fund) have also been created to manage climate change related issues, including adaptation to climate change (MEEF, 2010).

**Table 2: Key Government Policies and Reports reflecting Adaptation Needs, Priorities and Planned Actions**

Name of Policy Action	Government Division Responsible	Status	Summary description
1. Second National Communication (MEEF, 2010)	Ministry of Environment and Nature Protection	Released in 2010	This document describes the steps Côte d'Ivoire is taking and envisages undertaking to implement the UNFCCC. It underlines key vulnerabilities (agriculture/food security, coastal zones and marine ecosystems, water resources, fisheries, land resources and biodiversity) as well as potential adaptation measures.
2. First National Communication (MEEF, 2000)		Released in 2001	This document included an impact study for three sectors: coastal resources, water resources and forests.

### C. Current Adaptation Action

Adaptation action in Côte d'Ivoire is currently very low, with the country participating in three regional projects. These projects address the sectors of agriculture, the links between health, water and climate change, and the establishment of climate resilient land use practices.

**Table 3: Current Adaptation Projects and Programs active in Côte d'Ivoire**

Name	Objectives	Funder(s)	Implementing Agency(s)	Type of project	Duration	Focus Area(s)	Geographic focus (if any)	
<b>Participation in Regional and Global Initiatives</b>								
1.	Interdisciplinary and Participative Research on Interactions between Ecosystems, Climate and Societies in West Africa <sup>120</sup>	The project will identify the relations between ecosystem vulnerabilities and human populations in order to scientifically support political responses to climate change.	France's Foreign Affairs Ministry	Agence inter établissements de la recherche pour le développement (Inter-institutional Research Agency for Development)	Research	2007 – 2011	Ecosystem conservation	<i>Regional:</i> Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Cape Verde, CAR, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Togo
			<i>In Côte d'Ivoire : Not available</i>					
2.	An Ecosystems Approach to Managing Water and Health in the Context of Climate Change: Adaptive strategies to drought and	Using an ecosystem approach, this project aims to strengthen the capacities of communities to adapt to drought aggravated by sudden flooding in two contexts (semi-arid and tropical humid) in	DFID and IDRC through the CCAA program	Centre Suisse de Recherches Scientifiques en Côte d'Ivoire	Knowledge communication	2008 – ?	Freshwater supply; Human health	<i>Regional:</i> Côte d'Ivoire, Mauritania, Senegal, Togo

<sup>120</sup> <http://www.aird.fr/ripiecsa/index.htm>.

Name	Objectives	Funder(s)	Implementing Agency(s)	Type of project	Duration	Focus Area(s)	Geographic focus (if any)
flooding in four West African countries <sup>121</sup>	West Africa. The project will establish a regional platform for collaboration on the effects of climate change on water and health in West Africa through engagement and knowledge sharing.	<i>In Côte d'Ivoire : Not available</i>					
3. West African Science Service on Climate and Adapted Land Use <sup>122</sup>	The project aims at generating knowledge and developing analytical capabilities in West Africa to cope with climate change by the design of resilient land-use systems and the development of measures to conserve or restore healthy ecosystems that allow sustainable development. It relies upon cooperation between the West African research community and the expertise existing in Germany on climate change and adapted land management.	German Federal Ministry of Education and Research	University of Bonn	Research	2010 – 2011	Agriculture; Ecosystem conservation	<i>Regional:</i> Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Gambia, Ghana, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal and Togo
<i>In Côte d'Ivoire : Not available</i>							

#### D. Proposed Adaptation Action

Through its Second National Communication, Côte d'Ivoire has identified some adaptation strategies that it would like to undertake in the future, focused primarily in the areas of health and addressing multi-sectoral issues. The projects are focused at the national level and general focus on the initial stages of adaptation action (awareness, research, capacity building) with less of a focus on implementation of planned actions.

<sup>121</sup> [http://www.idrc.ca/cp/ev-120851-201-1-DO\\_TOPIC.html](http://www.idrc.ca/cp/ev-120851-201-1-DO_TOPIC.html).

<sup>122</sup> [http://www.lap.uni-bonn.de/research/research-projects/wascal?set\\_language=en](http://www.lap.uni-bonn.de/research/research-projects/wascal?set_language=en)

**Table 4: Proposed Adaptation Actions in Côte d'Ivoire's NAPA (MEEF, 2010)**

Name	Objectives	Type of project	Priority Sector(s)	Geographic focus (if any)
1. Awareness raising for different actors	To integrate the aspect of climate change in the decision-making process	Knowledge communication	Human Health	National
2. Health professional training	To train health professionals to identify climate related issues, the most vulnerable populations and their needs	Capacity building	Human health	National
3. Create a collaboration between the Ivorian health care systems and those of other countries as well as with international organizations	To better protect populations against climate-related health risks	Knowledge communication	Human health	National
4. Setting up emergency measures in case of extreme climate events	To reinforce health care systems in zones where most vulnerable populations live and prevent local populations of extreme climatic events	Policy formation and implementation	Human health; Disaster risk management	National
5. Promote research on climate change impacts and vulnerability	To prepare to face future changes	Research	Multi-sectoral	National
6. Reinforce knowledge on natural catastrophes and extreme events related to climate change	To apprehend climate related risks for the population	Research	Disaster risk management	National
7. Elaborate and establish a national strategy to mitigate climate change-related catastrophes	To mitigate climate change-related catastrophes	Policy formation and implementation	Disaster risk management	National

## E. Assessment

In its initial National Communication in 2001 (MEEF, 2000), Côte d'Ivoire completed an impact study for three sectors: coastal resources, freshwater resources and forests. Although adaptation strategies and actions were identified in those sectors, it was not until 2007 that adaptation focused projects related to freshwater agriculture, human health and ecosystem conservation were initiated in Côte d'Ivoire. Although these projects target key vulnerable sectors in Côte d'Ivoire, further effort is needed to address adaptation needs of the country's vulnerable sectors. Greater attention may also be warranted in the areas of forestry, disaster risk management, coastal zone management, urban adaptation and the differential gender-based impacts of climate change. Political instability and the fact that Côte d'Ivoire is not a LDC may explain in part the limited amount of adaptation action in the country. The elaboration of a climate change adaptation strategy, as announced in Côte d'Ivoire's Second National Communication, may incentivize the implementation of projects in vulnerable sectors by identifying and prioritizing specific actions.



## References:

Adaptation Learning Mechanism [ALM] (undated). Côte d'Ivoire. Accessible at: <http://www.adaptationlearning.net/cote-divoire/profile>

Ministry of Environment, Water and Forests (Ministère de l'Environnement des Eaux et Forêts) [MEEF] (2000). *First National Communication to the UNFCCC*. Abidjan: MEEF.

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