



## ADVOCACY NOTE

---

NOVEMBER 2022

WEST AFRICA

# Mobilising climate finance to countries in the ECOWAS-CILSS region





## ***There is an urgent need to increase the volume and efficiency of climate finance flows.***

While Africa is one of the regions of the world that contributes the least to greenhouse gas emissions, it is also one of the most vulnerable regions to the effects of climate change. Thus, the countries of the ECOWAS-CILSS zone, whose average carbon footprint is less than 1 tonne per inhabitant per year, have some of the highest levels of vulnerability in the world. Faced with this observation, the countries of the ECOWAS-CILSS region have made the fight against climate change one of their priorities, as shown by the commitments made in the framework of the implementation of the Paris Agreement through their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), revised in 2021.

**On the occasion of COP27, these member states are mobilising to remind stakeholders and policy makers of the urgency of accelerating climate finance over the next decade.** The mapping of international financial flows carried out by ECOWAS (2003 - 2022) shows a deficit of investment in climate action, in relation to the conditional needs expressed by the countries concerned. Despite useful collaborations with different partners (providing financial support, technical assistance, capacity building and

active awareness raising), the need to increase the volume and effectiveness of financial flows for adaptation remains to this day.

In this context, **ECOWAS proposes on the one hand that financial institutions, and more particularly the Regional Roundtable of the "Climate Donors Group" of the Regional Climate Strategy, integrate climate resilience into their investments.** On the other hand, it calls on policy makers to create an enabling environment for adaptation investments, through capacity building, to develop policies and projects based on scientific evidence, improved macroeconomic environments and the adoption of a multidimensional approach.

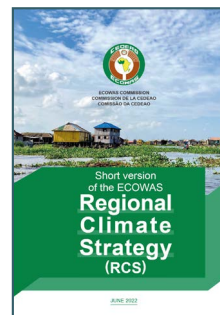
This presents an opportunity for the region to build resilience and actively contribute to the two-year (2022-2023) *Glasgow-Sharm el-Sheikh work programme* to define a global adaptation target. ●

## CLIMATE FINANCE, A POLICY PRIORITY FOR THE REGION

The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) provides a favourable framework for the fulfilment of the climate commitments of its Member States and thus actively contributes to the implementation of the Paris Agreement. Indeed, through its **Regional Climate Strategy (RCS)**, ECOWAS devotes one of the specific objectives (SO) to the major issue of financing climate action. This is SO 6 aimed at "Promoting new approaches to mobilising endogenous and exogenous financial resources". Through the SRC, ECOWAS commits itself alongside and in support of its Member States to make climate a priority for political action in the region, in line with its Vision 2050, based on the observation that the impacts of climate change are transboundary and that it is together that ECOWAS Member States can take up this challenge "alone we go faster, together we go further".



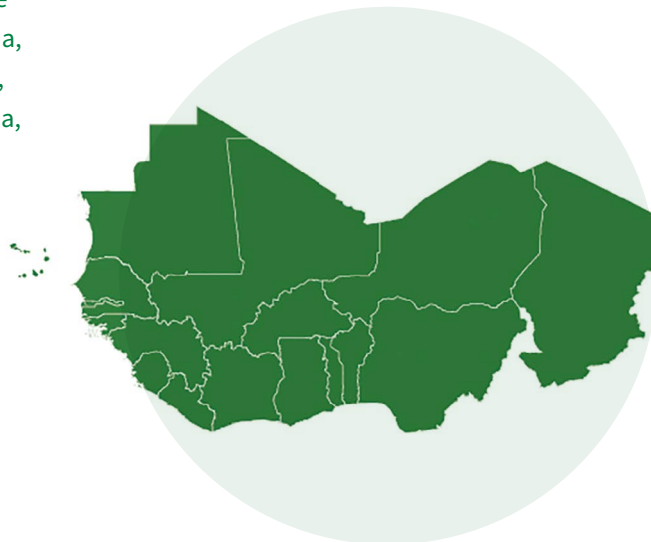
**GOING FURTHER**  
*Financial Innovation for Climate Change Adaptation in Africa*, Global Center for Adaptation, published in August 2022.



*Regional Climate Strategy (RCS)*, published in June 2022.

### THE ECOWAS-CILSS ZONE MAP

Benin, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Togo



**340 234**  
MILLIONS DOLLARS

This is the climate finance requirement for ECOWAS countries to implement all mitigation and adaptation actions over the period 2020-2030.



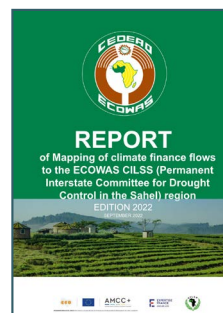
4 countries in the ECOWAS-CILSS zone are among the **ten most vulnerable countries in the world**, according to the ND-GAIN index. These are **Liberia, Niger, Guinea Bissau and Chad**.

## AN ESSENTIAL MAPPING TOOL FOR VISUALISING CLIMATE FINANCE FLOWS

Considering the importance of setting up a framework for monitoring climate finance flows, ECOWAS, with the support of the GCCA+WA project, has taken the initiative to promote regular monitoring of climate finance flows to the ECOWAS-CILSS region by listing the funding received, particularly from international sources, whether multilateral or bilateral.

**This mapping shows an increase in financing since 2019. This can be explained by the combined effect of the acceleration of the implementation of the Paris Agreement through the NDCs and a relative progress in the readiness of ECOWAS-CILSS countries to attract international climate finance.**

Thus, a first edition of the mapping of climate finance flows was published in 2020 covering the period from 2003 to 2019 (February) with an estimated total balance of US\$ 1,377 million from multilateral sources, mostly for adaptation actions. A second edition of this mapping of climate finance flows, validated in September 2022 and covering the period from March 2019 to June 2022, highlighted a volume of US\$3,888 million from multilateral and bilateral sources, where multilateral finance alone accounts for more than 86% of international finance, or US\$3,325 million.



*Mapping of climate finance flows to the ECOWAS region ECOWAS CILSS, GCCA+WA, published in November 2022.*

### • Details for the period 2019-2022

*The analysis of the different financial instruments mobilised shows that loan financing is the most used with a share of 47%, and more than 45% of climate finance resources were mobilised in the form of grants. In terms of thematic areas of impact, 36.4% of international financial flows were used to finance cross-cutting actions (covering mitigation and adaptation), 35.8% specifically for adaptation and 27.8% for mitigation.*

### • Details for the period 2003-2022

*From a cumulative perspective over the period 2003-2022, the overall balance is US\$ 5,273 million, with multilateral sources alone accounting for 89% of this funding, or US\$ 4,702 million. Almost 40% of these financial resources have been used to fund adaptation actions, about 32% for mitigation and 28% for multiple areas.*

## DISPARITIES BETWEEN STATES AND A DEFINITE LACK OF RESOURCES

These maps have highlighted the great disparities between the countries of the region on the one hand, and on the other hand the large gap between the resources actually mobilised and the needs expressed by the countries, particularly in view of the commitments made under the Paris Agreement. Indeed, **according to the revised NDCs of the countries of the ECOWAS-CILSS region, the need for climate financing to implement all mitigation actions (unconditional and conditional) and adaptation is estimated at US\$ 340,234.22 million over the period 2020-2030.** Over the same period, the climate finance requirement to implement the condi-

tional actions amounts to USD 82,689 million, noting however that this amount is largely underestimated as the majority of countries have not communicated their conditional requirements. In line with the implementation period of the NDCs (2020-2030), **the climate finance mobilised from international sources between March 2019 and June 2022 represents only 4.7% of the conditional needs expressed by some countries through their NDCs.**

## ALARMING FORECASTS FOR 2030

Based on the trends observed to date, it is possible to estimate in a simplified way the annual prospective trend of international climate finance flows and their adequacy with the financial needs expressed in the NDCs.

### • Mitigation actions

The region has been able to mobilise an estimated total of US\$1,787 million between 2019 and 2022, which can be expressed as an annual flow of around US\$595.66 million. However, based on the total need expressed by countries in the conditional part of their NDCs for mitigation actions between 2020 and 2030, i.e. a total of US\$280,700 million, equivalent to an annual average of US\$28,070 million, on current trends, international funding will only cover 2.12% of the annual need.

### • Adaptation actions

However, based on the total need expressed by countries in their NDCs for adaptation actions between 2020 and 2030, i.e. a total of US\$ 595,200 million equivalent to an annual average of US\$ 59,520 million, on current trends

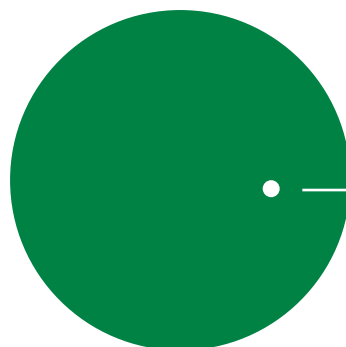
international funding will only cover 1.17% of annual needs.

• Overall<sup>1</sup> – Over the period 2019 - 2022, US\$ 3,325 million has been received by member states out of the US\$ 82,689 million deemed necessary for the implementation of the conditional parts of their NDCs.

If this trend continues, by 2030 only 13% of the annual financial needs for the implementation of the declared conditional NDCs will be covered. In other words, **87% of the specifically declared conditional targets will not be met annually**. This is all the more worrying as most Member States have not communicated their conditional funding needs separately, which means that the funding needs are well beyond the target of 82 689 millions.

<sup>1</sup> The trend was estimated from a linear extrapolation taking into account the funding to be received for each year over 10 years (2020-2030) and based on the total amount received over the period 2019-2022 and the total need expressed by the countries in their NDCs for the conditional actions

OVER THE PERIOD 2019 - 2022, **3,325 million dollars** have been received, out of the **82,689 million** deemed necessary by the Member States that have expressed their opinion.



THIS REPRESENTS

**4,7%**

**of the conditional needs** expressed by countries through their NDCs.



CONDITIONAL FINANCING :  
**conditional on financial support, technology transfers and capacity building from abroad**

UNCONDITIONAL FINANCING :  
**not depending on external support**

## AN EMERGENCY CALL AND SPECIFIC SOLUTIONS TO BE IMPLEMENTED

With the current rate of mobilisation of international funding to the countries of the ECOWAS-CILSS region, the needs expressed by the countries in their NDCs cannot be met, especially as **national financial resources remain limited and are often mobilised to cover urgent socio-economic needs**. The countries of the region are now urgently appealing to their technical and financial partners for additional support to be programmed and mobilised in order to support low-carbon and resilient development in the region.

### In particular, it is possible to:

- Strengthen the role of the private sector, in particular through the promotion of alternative and innovative financing, according to the specificity of the climate projects, the needs of the countries and their macroeconomic ecosystems.
- Encourage South-South cooperation.
- Strengthen the regionality of climate impacts by encouraging ECOWAS to support regional projects, in order to catalyse a dynamic between member countries, which present common but diverse challenges to different degrees, and ensure a clear and transparent distribution of resources. Indeed, out of 235 projects identified and considered in the flow mapping, only 23% (51) are multi-country. From an investment volume point of view, the financing of multi-country projects amounts to nearly US\$ 200 million compared to US\$ 3,888 million for financing received directly by the countries of the

region, i.e. a financing volume of only 5% which remains low in view of the cross-border challenges of the fight against climate change.

- Strengthen the mobilisation of financial institutions, especially the group of donors identified in the RCS, to integrate climate resilience into their investments.
- Complement capacity building actions in the ECOWAS region with longer-term mentoring to allow time for capacity gains to be translated into concrete achievements.
- Invite technical and financial partners (TFPs) to join the "climate donors group" to be officially launched in 2023 for strengthened and coordinated regional climate action on the course set by the ECOWAS regional climate strategy adopted in 2022. ●



THIS PUBLICATION WAS PRODUCED WITH THE TECHNICAL SUPPORT OF EXPERTISE FRANCE THROUGH THE EU-FUNDED GCCA+ WEST AFRICA PROJECT.



INTRA-ACP GCCA+ PROGRAMME An initiative of the ACP Group of States funded by the European Union's European Development Fund

### ECOWAS Directorate of Agriculture and Rural Development (DADR)

River Plaza Annex, 496 Abogo Largema Street,  
Central Business District, PMB 401 Abuja FCT  
Federal Republic of Nigeria  
Email : [agric\\_ruraldev@ecowas.int](mailto:agric_ruraldev@ecowas.int)  
[www.ecowap.ecowas.int](http://www.ecowap.ecowas.int)

### ECOWAS Directorate of Environment and Natural Resources (DERN)

River Plaza Annex, 496 Abogo Largema Street,  
Central Business District, PMB 401 Abuja FCT  
Federal Republic of Nigeria  
Email : [agric\\_ruraldev@ecowas.int](mailto:agric_ruraldev@ecowas.int)  
[www.ecowap.ecowas.int](http://www.ecowap.ecowas.int)

### RAAF - Regional Agency for Agriculture and Food

83, rue de la Pâture (Super Taco)  
Lomé - Togo  
[www.araa.org](http://www.araa.org)