



PRESS KIT

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West Africa region mobilises for climate at COP27

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COP 27, an African COP, **an opportunity for West Africa**

The 27th Conference of the Parties (COP27) of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) takes place from 6 to 18 November 2022 in Sharm el-Sheikh under the presidency of Egypt.

Climate change is a critical issue for the African continent. Africa is the continent that contributes the least to greenhouse gas emissions, but is among the most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change.

Nine of the world's thirty most vulnerable countries are in the West African region, and four of the ten most vulnerable countries. Emissions from ECOWAS countries represent 1.8% of global greenhouse gas emissions and all ECOWAS countries emit on average less than one ton of CO₂ per capita per year.

The specific problems of the continent must be placed at the heart of the issues of this African COP. The fight against climate change implies immediate and decisive action, deeply transforming, on the part of all (public actors, private actors and civil society) and the institutions of the West African region are fully mobilised to face it.

COP 27 is an opportunity for West Africa to demonstrate the regional climate leadership of West Africa, and more particularly of the regional institutions, by promoting the climate action of ECOWAS and its regional partner institutions (WADB, WAEMU, CILSS) as well as of its Member States, to advance negotiations in priority areas such as climate finance, adaptation and loss and damage.

The West African region is mobilised to have an impact on COP27. Come and meet the region's representatives on the West Africa pavilion (see programme page 5 or in the negotiations by meeting the Regional Climate Negotiations Support Group (GRANIC).

All information on the following pages.

Meet West Africa at COP27

Four regional institutions hold joint flag at COP27.

ECOWAS and WADB, in partnership with WAEMU and CILSS, will hold the "West Africa" pavilion throughout COP27, demonstrating the strong mobilization of regional institutions on climate, alongside the States. More than a symbol, this pavilion shows the willingness of regional institutions to strengthen their cooperation around the common challenge of climate change.

Meetings and side-events organised by West African States or regional institutions, a working place to coordinate the positions of the region's negotiators the pavilion will contribute to strengthening the voice of West Africa on the international climate scene and to enhancing the climate action of regional institutions as well as that of their member States.





SAVE THE DATE



NOVEMBER 8TH 2022 • PRESS CONFERENCE

In the presence of **Mr. Moussa Leko**, Acting Director, Environment and Natural Resources Directorate at the ECOWAS Commission and Director General of Expertise France, **Jérémie Pellet**.

SEE PAGE 9

NOVEMBER 9TH 2022 • HIGH-LEVEL SIDE EVENT

The ECOWAS Regional Climate Strategy: what coordination mechanisms for greater regional climate governance?

SEE PAGE 11

See also all events on the West Africa Pavillon from **8th to 18th of november 2022**.

West Africa in solidarity and coordination to face the climate challenge

The cross-border nature of climate change means that some responses go beyond the national level. ECOWAS has a long history of climate action (energy, agriculture, livestock, water, infrastructure, health, climate services, disaster risk management). In recent years, the regional institution has increased its regional leadership to better coordinate climate action, alongside and in support of Member States to achieve the objectives of the Paris Climate Agreement and build resilience to climate change. **The added value of the supranational level is illustrated by the following initiatives:**

● ECOWAS Regional Climate Strategy

To structure its action, ECOWAS adopted in 2022 its first Regional Climate Strategy containing a vision for 2050 and a first action plan for 2022-2030; in line with ECOWAS Vision 2025 and the African Union's climate strategy.

With this document, ECOWAS sets regional adaptation and mitigation objectives broken down by sector, the objective being that all regional policies and projects are compatible with the Paris Agreement.



NOVEMBER 8TH FROM 11:30 AM TO 12:00 PM ON THE PRESS CONFERENCE ROOM CAIRO/AREA E

Presentation of the ECOWAS regional climate strategy. See page 9.

NOVEMBER 9TH FROM 9:30 AM TO 11:30 ON THE WEST AFRICA PAVILION

For a high-level dialogue on the regional climate strategy and a sectoral declaration (energy and agriculture). See page 11.

More information on the Regional Climate Strategy:
www.climatestrategy.ecowas.int/fr

● **Support for the implementation of the Paris Agreement in ECOWAS Member States**

Through national capacity building, technical support to several countries, an ECOWAS guide for the implementation of the Paris Agreement, sharing of good practices through the magazine "Stories of NDCs in West Africa", ECOWAS supports national efforts to respond to climate change.

● **Coordinated negotiators to provide a unified voice for the West African region**

The ECOWAS Regional Support Group for International Climate Negotiations (GRANIC) is fully operational since COP26 in 2021. Its objective is to promote the emergence of common West African positions to be carried within the groups of negotiators formed. This group meets twice a year in the presence of negotiators from the Member States and will coordinate itself throughout COP27. Regional common positions are consolidated before the COPs and the region's expectations in terms of negotiations will be published at the opening of COP27.

[See more information on pages 8 and 9](#)

● **Mobilising climate finance**

Direct access of EBID (ECOWAS Bank for Investment and Development) to the Green Climate Fund (to be submitted in 2022), creation of a regional round table of technical and financial partners led by the ECOWAS

Commission, development of a map of climate finance flows to the ECOWAS-CILSS zone, training of more than 500 executives throughout the region, etc., many actions are being carried out to mobilise climate finance. more strongly in the region.

● **Agricultural practices adapted to climate change disseminated throughout the region**

Good practices of climate-smart agriculture including agroecology from field projects have been experimented, documented and are supported by regional institutions, ensuring their dissemination throughout the region to enrich public policies (brochure pilot projects and synthesis).

● **Harmonised climate data in 17 States of the ECOWAS-CILSS zone**

As hydro-climatic data management is essential for adaptation to climate change, hydro-climatological tools and databases have been harmonised in the 17 countries of the ECOWAS-CILSS zone by the Agrhymet Regional Centre. Scientific references for measuring the carbon of representative agroforestry ecosystems in West Africa were also established, a first in the region.

Providing a unified voice for the West African region in the climate negotiations

The ECOWAS Regional Support Group for International Climate Negotiations (GRANIC) promotes the emergence of common West African positions to be taken within the groups of negotiators, particularly during the COPs. This group meets twice a year in the presence of negotiators from member states.

In the run-up to COP27, the group adopted several common positions of the negotiators from the region's member states and organised itself to best represent the region's interests in the various priority thematic negotiation groups.

The coordination work continues throughout COP27, including working times hosted at the West Africa Pavilion.

The West African region has agreed on the region's expectations at COP27. And it is on the progress of these priority issues that West Africa will judge the success or otherwise of this COP.

These expectations relate to:

- raising the ambition of greenhouse gas emission reductions,
- Article 6 of the Paris Agreement,
- adaptation,
- loss and damage,
- and climate finance.

Find the press release on www.ecowas.int



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MASSANDJÉ TOURE-LITSE,
ECOWAS COMMISSIONER
FOR ECONOMIC AFFAIRS
AND AGRICULTURE

"Climate change is a vital concern for our West African economies, societies, communities and ecosystems. Responding to climate change is a priority for ECOWAS. But alone we go faster, together we go further. Cooperation between regional climate institutions in West Africa allows for better coordination and therefore greater efficiency of climate action for the benefit of member states. Regional climate action complements and supports the national action of member states (and in particular their NDCs): through funding, capacity building, policy framework. It is therefore logical that West African regional institutions should mobilise significantly for COP27."

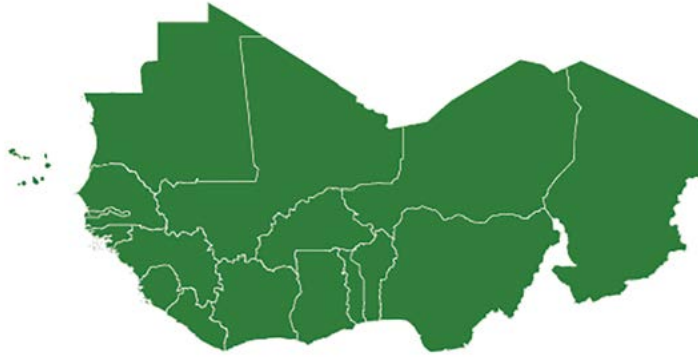


PRESS CONFERENCE

**NOVEMBER 8TH FROM 11:30 AM TO 12:00 PM
PRESS CONFERENCE ROOM CAIRO/AREA E**

Presentation of the common regional negotiating position at the opening of COP27 and the ECOWAS regional climate strategy adopted in 2022.

In the presence of Mr. Moussa Leko, Acting Director, Environment and Natural Resources Directorate at the ECOWAS Commission, and Mr. Jérémie Pellet, Director General of Expertise France, an ECOWAS partner, who will discuss the crucial issues of cooperation to meet the challenges of the fight against climate change in West Africa.



THE GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE ALLIANCE PLUS - WEST AFRICA COMPONENT (GCCA+ WA) PROJECT COVERS 17 MEMBER STATES IN THE ECOWAS AND CILSS REGION: *BENIN, BURKINA FASO, CHAD, CÔTE D'IVOIRE, GAMBIA, GHANA, GUINEA, GUINEA BISSAU, CAPE VERDE, MALI, MAURITANIA, NIGER, NIGERIA, LIBERIA, SENEGAL, SIERRA LEONE, TOGO.*

GCCA+ West Africa, **a cooperation project** focused on regional climate action

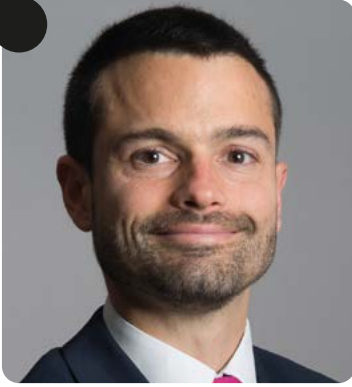
The GCCA+ AO project is implemented by Expertise France under the leadership of the ECOWAS Commission and in collaboration with the Permanent Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS). Funded by the European Union and France to the tune of 12 million euros and 100,000 euros respectively, this project aims to contribute to the regional effort to implement the Paris Agreement.

It is part of a regional cooperation dynamic. The activities carried out over the past five years have been designed and implemented with the aim of producing stronger coordination at the West African region level, ensuring a climate response commensurate to the emergency.

CAGP+AO project activities 2018-2022

- Increased leadership of regional institutions for a coherent and ambitious response to climate change
- Mobilising climate finance
- Implementation of the Paris Agreement by West African States
- Emergence of common regional positions in international climate negotiations
- Support for innovation and experimentation in climate-smart agriculture (CSA) practices
- Strengthening the region's scientific and technical capacity to reduce vulnerability to climate change
- Strengthening of degree courses on climate change in the region and training of journalists.

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JÉRÉMIE PELLET,
DIRECTOR GENERAL
OF EXPERTISE FRANCE

"On certain subjects such as access to data, climate finance, and support for negotiations, the pooling of efforts at the regional level allows for economies of scale in terms of expenditure but also results. The GCCA+AO West Africa project has therefore sought to articulate climate actions at the international, regional, national and local levels, relying on the leadership of West African regional institutions, which are able to drive coordination between these different levels within the region."



SAVE THE DATE

**WEDNESDAY 09 NOVEMBER FROM 9:30 AM TO 11:00 AM ON THE WEST AFRICA PAVILION
HIGH-LEVEL SIDE EVENT ON THE REGIONAL CLIMATE STRATEGY**

High-level side event on the Regional Climate Strategy: "The ECOWAS Regional Climate Strategy: what coordination mechanisms for greater regional climate governance?"

In the presence of **Mr. Moussa Leko**, Acting Director, Environment and Natural Resources Directorate at the ECOWAS Commission, of **Mr. Jérémie Pellet**, the Director General of Expertise France, and of **Mr. Christophe Deguenon**, the Director of the Environment of the WAEMU Commission, .

Followed by a coffee break, from 11:00 to 11:30.

**THURSDAY 10 NOVEMBER FROM 16:00 TO 18:00 ON THE WEST AFRICA PAVILION
FEEDBACK FROM A PROJECT SUPPORTING REGIONAL CLIMATE ACTION**

An overview of the West African region's structuring actions on climate: ECOWAS regional climate strategy, agriculture, training, harmonisation of climate data, coordination in climate negotiations, etc., and the lessons learned from the partnership approach between the institutions which has enabled them to strengthen their leadership.

In the presence of the **Director of Environment and Natural Resources of ECOWAS**, the **Director General of the Regional Agrhyment Centre**, the **Director of the Sustainable Development Department of Expertise France**, **Mr Nicolas Chenet**, and of the **Director of the Green Pact of the European Commission**, **Mrs. Carla MONTESI**.

Followed by a coffee break, at 17:30.



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