

Africa Adaptation Initiative (AAI)

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AAI Press Release:

The African Adaptation Initiative: Gabon hosts the first Partners meeting

Libreville 09 April 2018 - In the implementation framework of the Africa Adaptation Initiative (AAI), the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN) with the support of UNDP, organized a strategic partner meeting from 27 to 28 March 2018. The meeting was chaired by the Minister of State of Forest and Environment of Gabon, Mr. Pacôme Moubelet Bouyeba, in his capacity as the Chair of the African Ministerial Conference on the environment (AMCEN).

The AAI was formally launched at COP 21 in Paris in December 2015. The AAI aims to enhance action on adaptation on the continent and to improve climate and observational infrastructure, support for the implementation of national and regional policies. The Gabonese Republic, as current Chair of the Committee of African Heads of State and Government on Climate Change (CAHOSCC) and the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN) has recently provided financial contribution to the African Adaptation Initiative (AAI) to support the implementation of the initiative and help mobilize additional resources.

The first strategic partner meeting of the Africa Adaptation Initiative took place in Libreville with four main objectives: (i) share with partners the progress made by AAI on implementation of the work plan and resource mobilization; (ii) mapping of ongoing initiatives on the continent and identify opportunities for scaling up; (iii) engage with partners on how to collectively enhance the objectives of the AAI, taking into consideration the synergies and complementarities of existing programs and initiatives; (iv) engage with partners on the preparation of the donor round table in New York at the UN General Assembly in September 2018.

At the end of the meeting, there seemed to be broad agreement that in terms of strategic positioning the role of the IAA will be to convene, coordinate, facilitate, promote, advocate and represent, specifically through the establishment of learning platform, sharing of knowledge and lessons learned on the implementation of adaptation actions and acting as a marketplace for enhancing adaptation action in Africa by providing information, creating a dialogue and connecting countries, tailored technical service providers and funders.

On the resource mobilization front, it was recommended to develop high-level partnerships with African institutions, including the African Union Commission and the African Development Bank, which play a crucial role in this area and efforts should be made to ensure their support.

For political leverage, it is recommended to convene a donor roundtable with the Chair of the African Union, the UN Secretary General, and other strategic partners to be held in September 2018 in New York.

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