Resilience under climate change:

Perspectives for Water, Energy and Food Security

1. Background and objectives of the seminar

Climate change is having multiple, immediate and long-term impacts in African countries. Some of these includes flooding, drought, sea-level rise, poor quality in surface and groundwater systems, precipitation and water vapor pattern distortions. These effects when combined have devastating impacts on ecosystems and communities which threatens the existence of many regions in Africa.

Coping, adapting and building the resilience capacities of African countries towards the impacts of climate change on water resources requires holistic approaches.

In this context, the Water, Energy and Food Security Nexus would be a useful perspective addressing the inextricably linked sectors in terms of efficient use of water and other natural resources for securing the human rights to water and food particularly in the regions that are vulnerable to the climate change.

GIZ and JICA, two of the largest bilateral agencies are jointly organizing this seminar to find out ways to use synergies between these three sectors to achieve additional results in improving droughts and floods resilience at the political and at the field level.

2. The objectives of the seminar are:

- Understand the impacts of climate change on water resources in Africa.
- Explore effective climate change adaptation approaches that could build resilience capacities towards the climate change impacts particularly floods and droughts. The Nexus perspective that addresses the inextricably linked sectors of water, energy and food security in an integrated manner could provide a good inspiration.

3. Key questions to be addressed will include:

- What needs to be done to better estimate the climate change impacts for "informed decision"?
- Are there "no regret measures" to improve resilience that will not impact other sectors?
- What needs to change in Africa in order to strengthen droughts and floods resilience at the political level and at the field level? What are the priorities?
- How can we make use of synergies between sectors to achieve additional results without additional funding?

4. Speakers

- Hon. Mamounata Belem OUEDRAGO, Minister of Water, Hydraulics and Sanitation, Burkina Faso
- Hon. Prof. Silas LWAKABAMBA, Ministrer of Infrastructure, Rwanda (TBC)
- Hon. Dr. Mohamed Bahaa Eldin Ahmed Saad, Minister of Water Resources and Irrigation, Egypt (TBC)
- Dr. Toshio KOIKE, Professor at the Department of Civil Engineering, University of Tokyo
- Mr. Kenzo HIROKI, Principal, UNESCO ICHARM
- Dr. Ulrike POKORSKI, Head of International Water Policy and Infrastructure, GIZ
- Mr. Hiroto ARAKAWA, Vice-President, JICA
- Mr. Katsuyoshi SUDO, Deputy Director General, Global Environment Department, JICA

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