



REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA
Ministry of Environment
& Tourism

Building the Foundation for a National Approach
to Climate Change Adaptation in Namibia



Information Bulletin

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Understanding the impacts of climate change on the social, economic and environmental spheres in Namibia

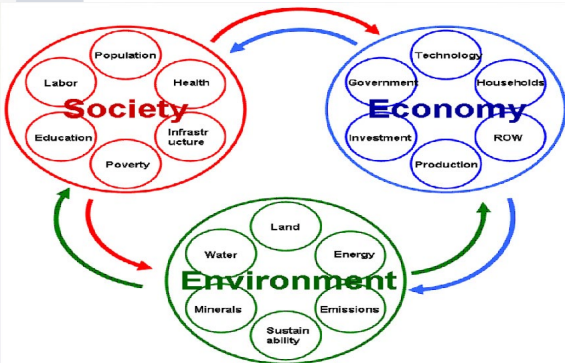
Climate change adaptation is a multi-dimensional developmental challenge facing Namibia and other developing nations. But when planning for the unforeseen impacts of a phenomenon as encompassing as climate change, leaders and technicians require an integrated approach to accurately map the potential outcomes in an array of sectors. More so for adapting to climate change as adaptation measures have far reaching costs and benefits which are not always easy to gauge through scientific approaches.

Members of the public were recently introduced to System Dynamics and Threshold 21 (T21) Namibia model at a Public Lecture organised in partnership with the Polytechnic of Namibia on Thursday 1 March 2012 at the academic institution. The T21 Namibia Model was developed by the Millennium Institute based in USA for Namibia through the Africa Adaptation Project Namibia (AAP NAM) of the Ministry of Environment and Tourism (MET) and is focused on integrating Climate Risk Management (CRM) into development planning at a national level within Namibia.

The National Policy for Climate Change states that the challenges posed by climate change and capitalizing on the associated opportunities clearly requires an inter-sectoral approach in which MET is taking the lead coordinating role. The goal of the National Policy for Climate Change is aligned with the attainment of sustainable development in line with Namibia's Vision 2030 through strengthening national capacities to reduce climate change risks and build resilience against climate shocks.



At a public lecture organised in partnership with the Polytechnic of Namibia, the Namibia T21 model was presented and discussed. The model is based on historical data, the best existing models, and other research and studies covering individual sectors, including those mentioned above. The major innovation is primarily integrating them into a single, dynamic framework.



Namibia T21 Model interface illustrating the interactions between various sectors in the developmental spheres of environment, economy and society with climate change impacts and adaptation scenarios for planning.

The T21 Namibia Model is aimed at enabling multi-sectoral analyses of priority sectors not only to assess the impacts of climate change on sectors but also assess the cost of not adapting and benefits of early climate change adaptation within sectors. It tests climate change policy strategies as well as the implications of implementing specific adaptation measures.

For more information on the T21 Namibia initiative and to access the model, visit <http://www.met.gov.na/AAP/Consultancies/T21Modelling/Pages/default.aspx>



Activities underway at the school environmental clubs (clockwise from top left): Learners at Linus Shashipapo SS in Kavango do weeding to prepare the soil for their school garden. Katji-na-Katji students use thier break-time to water fruit trees they planted around the school. Hochland High in WIndhoek is already boasting fruits from their labours. Ombombo Combined School in Kunene installed solar panels and since have been able to study for longer hours.



Winners (clockwise from top left) Mwaala Toivo, Yvonne Amukwaya, Marchell Höeb.

Youth are doing it for themselves! Climate change adaptation in Namibia's school environmental clubs

Adapting to climate change can take on many forms. From gardening with adaptive species of seeds to using solar panels for electricity, reaping the benefits of micro-drip irrigation for vegetable gardens to raising awareness among your peers about the impacts of climate change and what it means for young Namibians.

These are just some of the activities engrossing ten school environmental clubs with the support of the Ministry of Environment and Tourism Support to School Environmental Club Initiative started in 2011 through the Environmental Education Unit and AAP NAM.

The schools receiving this support are: Mubiza Primary School (Caprivi), Hochland High School (Khomas), Academia High School (Khomas), Elakalapwa Combined School (Ohangwena), Linus Shashipapo Secondary School (Kavango), Katji-Na-Katji Secondary School (Kavango), Cornelius Goreseb High School (Kunene), Gabriel Taapopi Secondary School (Oshana), Ombombo Combined School (Kunene) and UNAM Environmental Society (Windhoek).

As part of the AAP NAM youth action for climate change agenda, a competition was run for Namibian young people to send their statements addressed to world leaders attending the 17th Conference of the Parties (COP 17) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The Top 10 Winners are: Marchell Höeb, Alfeus Shekunyenge, Batromeus Haivera, Yvonne Amukwaya, Moses Nikodemus Gaweseb, Elina Nambala, Menson Taala, Mwaala Toivo, Erastus Iileka and Miriam Elisabeth von Krosigk. Here are some of their statements to world leaders:

"World leaders should set up programmes for young people who have the passion to learn about climate change through creative activities such as music, poetry and dance. This will also get climate messages to people who are illiterate." – Marchell Höeb, 19

"I advise world leader to encourage and involve the youth to take part in the fight against global warming. The youth take up about half of the earth's population and by involving them, change WILL be brought about." – Yvonne Amukwaya, 22

"Africa has the least ability to cope with climate change. Therefore, African leaders should not underestimate their voices and demand a legally binding agreement!" – Moses Gaweseb, 21

“Let’s Act to Adapt!” Community Based Climate Change Adaptation toolkits

The “Let’s Act to Adapt” Community Based Adaptation Toolkits are available for all regions and translated into the main local languages after a depth of consultation, crafting of tools and quality assurance. The toolkits build on the successes of the Ntse Otweya community toolkit piloted in the Omusati Region in 2008 under the Namibia Country Pilot Partnership for Integrated Sustainable Land Management (CPP NAM ISLM).

The overall objective of the climate change adaptation information toolkits is to provide farmers, rural communities and peri-urban communities with clear information on how to adapt to climate change and climate variability. The toolkits inform these groups of simple coping methods applicable in their environments and climate change risks.

Following consultation with regional stakeholders and communities, the toolkits were compiled with region-specific climate change adaptation information, challenges and opportunities. The MET and partners designed, compiled, produced and translated the toolkits into local languages. The toolkit can be accessed in the following eight Namibian languages: Afrikaans, Damara, English, Oshiwambo, Otjiherero, Rukwangali, Setswana and Silozi.

The information toolkits will be distributed to all of the thirteen Regions of Namibia and training will be provided for extension services and community based adaptation.

For more information and to access the toolkits, please contact +264 61 284 2704 or visit: www.met.gov.na/AAP/Consultancies/CCAInformationToolkits



Flooding is one of the challenges faced by communities dependent on rain-fed agriculture. The “Let’s Act to Adapt” CBA toolkit introduces communities to a range of tools they can use to develop their own adaptive techniques to build resilience to climate change in Namibia.



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The Africa Adaptation Project Namibia (AAP NAM) is a climate change adaptation project based in the Department of Environmental Affairs in the Ministry of Environment and Tourism. The main objective of AAP NAM is to support Namibia to have the institutional, individual and systematic capacity to address climate change risks and opportunities through a national approach to climate change adaptation.