

GEO-UNESCO JOINT WORKSHOP ON EARTH
OBSERVATIONS AND CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT FOR IWRM
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COORDINATION WITH ODA AGENCIES AT UNECA

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PRESENTATION OUTLINE

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- Coordination with ODA Agencies:
 - African Development Forum (ADF)
 - Coalition for dialogue on Africa (CODA)
 - ECA Partnership Forum
 - Technical dialogue and consultations
 - ECA Partners Portal
- Conclusions

INTRODUCTION

- UN Regional Economic Commission and Pan-African Institution at the same time;
- ECA Board: Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development;
- AU/ECA/AfDB Joint Secretariat;
- ECA-GEO located in the ISTD Division, and coordinates GEO-related activities Africa-wide;
- VISION: Be a leading knowledge institution and centre of excellence on socioeconomic development issues for an integrated and developed Africa;

INTRODUCTION (2)

- **MISSION:** ECA promotes and addresses Africa's development agenda in collaboration with the African Union and other key stakeholders by formulating policies, fostering regional integration, and harnessing resources and partnerships for the continent's socioeconomic transformation;
- **MAIN ACTIVITIES:**
 - Knowledge generation, sharing and networking;
 - Knowledge management and Peer learning;
 - Outreach;
 - Advocacy and consensus building;
 - Advisory services and technical cooperation involving
 - Capacity building
 - Technical assistance.

INTRODUCTION (3)

- **ROLE OF ECA IN WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT IN AFRICA:**
 - Activities geared towards catalyzing cooperation among African countries for resolution of water resources management issues at national and river basin levels;
 - Provision of regional advisory services and technical assistance to requesting national governments and inter-governmental organizations;
 - Assessment and reporting progress on MDG targets on water and sanitation in African countries;
 - Preparation of water-related frameworks/guidelines (i.e., cost-benefit analysis of water and power infrastructure projects);
 - Support to AU (and its NEPAD Programme) through the UN-Water/Africa Group of Agencies' coordinated support to AU Summits and AMCOW conferences and meetings;
 - ClimDev-Africa Programme/ACPC, AWICH, etc.

COORDINATION WITH ODA AGENCIES

- Partnerships based on comparative advantage, and pooling of resources, are critical to maximizing impact on Africa's development;
- UNECA has therefore progressively strengthened partnership agenda with a wide spectrum of bilateral and multilateral partners within and outside Africa;
- Accountability for partner funds is a watchword and demonstrated through regular dialogues, transparency, timely reporting, and joint project implementation reviews with partners;
- Major partnerships are forged through holding of development forums, technical dialogues, and consultations.

AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT FORUM (ADF)

- A major gathering for discussing and building consensus on critical and emerging issues, designed to generate clearly defined, actionable programmes, implementable within capacity of African countries;
- Held annually in collaboration with the AUC, AfDB, and other development partners;
- ADF-VII held in October 2010 examined the theme “Acting on Climate Change for Sustainable Development in Africa”, recommending among others:
 - Strengthening of existing regional and subregional climate institutions and centres of excellence, and making them accessible to all stakeholders;
 - Strengthening capacity of policymakers and institutions in climate risk management processes for investment in adaptation, and on the concept of green economy;

AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT FORUM (ADF) (2)

- Equipping youths and vulnerable groups with tools and skills needed to withstand climate change impacts;
- Among others.

COALITION FOR DIALOGUE ON AFRICA (CODA)

- New, independent, international, Africa-owned forum that identifies and discusses issues of importance to Africa's development in a global context;
- Joint initiative of ECA, AUC and AfDB aimed at building consensus around key continental issues and challenges to actively advocate for Africa's development;
- Replaced the Big Table (Africa-OECD) policy forum, aimed at leveraging the convening power of the three Pan-African institutions and their access to African leaders and policymakers;
- Think tank that advocates for Africa, brings together a range of stakeholders, and provides a platform for African voices to be heard;

COALITION FOR DIALOGUE ON AFRICA (CODA) (2)

- Governed by a Board of eminent African and non-African personalities, and receives support from the private sector;
- Addresses mainly issues affecting peace, security, governance and development in Africa.

ECA PARTNERSHIP FORUM

- Another important medium for dialogue between ECA and its partners;
- Provides opportunities for discussing the Commission's on-going work programme and new priority initiatives;
- Designed to sensitize and share information with partners and stakeholders on ECA Business Plan and the strategic direction, and to re-focus ECA work programme.

TECHNICAL DIALOGUE AND CONSULTATIONS

- Regular consultation with partners and stakeholders enhances continued engagement and effective implementation and delivery of expected results of ECA programmes;
- Such regular consultations encouraged bilateral partners to negotiate and sign joint financial arrangements, resulting in a move away from fragmented support to activities in a range of unrelated areas, to a programme support-type, allowing greater flexibility in the use of the extra-budgetary resources;
- Project implementation review meetings are held regularly every 6-months.

ECA PARTNERS PORTAL

- Developed a web-based application providing personalized information relating to partners, on latest substantive and financial status of the management of ECA Trust Fund (TF) activities;
- Enables ECA partners to log-on remotely and access partner-related information on their funds and activities;
- Information posted on the web include:
 - Un-audited TF financial statements;
 - TF annual reports;
 - ECA annual reports;
 - Short profiles of all on-going projects, progress and terminal reports;
 - Other relevant information.

CONCLUSIONS

- ECA has a GEO Section that coordinates Africa-wide GEO-related activities, and is active in water resources management in Africa;
- ECA's coordination and partnership with bilateral and multilateral development agencies has developed and witnessed improvement given long years of existence and experience in forging partnerships;
- The technical divisions and field offices are responsible for generating programmes, projects and activities, validating such at various platforms that include development forums, technical dialogues, and consultations;
- Sometimes, this involves development of project documents to secure the buy-in of bilateral and multilateral agencies and funding (ClimDev-Africa/ACPC);

CONCLUSIONS (2)

- A Trust Fund section provides general oversight of all partnership arrangements within the Commission to ensure that all obligations towards partners (management of trust funds, periodic reporting) are faithfully discharged to the satisfaction of bilateral and multilateral partners, and that relationships endure.

Thank you!

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