The Adaptation Learning Programme (ALP) for Africa aims to increase the capacity of vulnerable households in sub-Saharan Africa to adapt to increasing and uncertain climate change and climate variability. Since 2010, ALP has been working with communities, government institutions and civil society organisations in Ghana, Kenya, Mozambique and Niger with outreach to other African countries.

ALP develops innovative community-based adaptation (CBA) approaches and strategies with farming and pastoralist communities, and promotes their integration into local and national government systems and programmes.

ALP work focuses on gender equality, strengthening adaptive capacity, access to useful climate information, multi-stakeholder decision-making and facilitation of learning for climate resilient agriculture, risk reduction and resilience across Africa.

From 2015 ALP is strengthening its evidence base and learning focus in prioritised CBA learning themes. Adoption at scale is achieved through capacity building, influencing policy, accountable adaptation finance and multiplying impact across Africa.

ALP IMPACTS BY 2015

- Over 1.5 million people in sub-Saharan Africa benefitting from community based adaptation approaches.
- 28,000 vulnerable people directly engaged in climate resilient livelihoods, e.g. early maturing seeds, conservation agriculture and inventory credit.
- CBA adopted in national policy and plans in Ghana, Kenya, Niger and Mozambique.
- Increased women’s economic and social empowerment through financial and decision-making independence and access to new communication channels.
- Providing value for money – every $1 invested in strengthening adaptive capacity and decision-making delivers $4 of social, environmental and economic benefits.

ALP promotes an integrated approach to community-based adaptation that strengthens adaptive capacity, and supports planning and implementation of gender equitable disaster risk reduction and climate resilient development, informed by knowledge of climate information and risks. A range of replicable CBA approaches has been developed for this purpose.
CBA APPROACHES

**Community Adaptation Action Plans (CAAPs)**

CAAPs are developed by communities through a participatory planning process involving: climate vulnerability, risk and capacity analysis, future visions for development, and feasibility assessment of options. The CAAPs record priority actions selected by men and women to build household and community resilience to the impacts of climate change.

**Participatory Scenario Planning (PSP)**

Multi-stakeholder PSP forums combine and translate indigenous and scientific seasonal forecasts to provide locally relevant advisories that are disseminated through new communication channels (radio and mobile phone) to inform livelihood and risk reduction decision making and plans.

**Integrating Risk and Resilience**

Village Savings and Loans Associations (VSLAs) build women’s economic and social empowerment through a systematic and group owned savings and credit system. Linked to adaptation, VSLAs support climate resilient income generating activities and provide cash for social protection in the face of new risks.

**Integration of CBA into Local Development Planning**

Integrating adaptation into local development planning ensures mainstream development and sector specific plans are climate resilient and responsive to community priorities. It increases the efficiency and impact of CBA and strengthens institutional linkages.

**Climate Field Schools (CFS)**

Climate field schools increase farmers’ knowledge of climate trends and impacts and their ability to use climate information for agriculture decision-making. CFS builds farmers’ capacity to access and innovate technologies for climate resilient agriculture resulting in more secure livelihoods and greater food security.

**Community Based Early Warning Systems for Climate Change Adaptation (CBEWS)**

CBEWS bring a climate lens to community based disaster risk reduction (DRR) and early warning systems (EWS) to increase people’s capacity to predict, prepare for and respond to climate extremes and deal with uncertainties and risks. Community rain gauges provide valuable information for early warning and for household decisions on risk management.

**Contact us:**

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