

IUCN and national climate change policy making: *Case study from Burkina Faso*

We interviewed Moumini Savadogo, Head of IUCN Burkina Faso office.

How has the Burkina Faso office engaged in climate change policy work?

IUCN Burkina Faso has focused on supporting national level policy processes, especially on adaptation; the implementation of the national NAPA and development of local and district level NAPA like plans; and improving capacity of civil society and local communities to engage in climate change policy.

Integration of Climate Change Adaptation into Poverty Reduction Policies in West Africa

This project aims to integrate adaptation into development planning. This is done through building strategic development plans or “strategic NAPAs” at community level (through municipalities) and district level. This includes identifying best practices and lessons learned on adaptation. Municipal and regional officers as well as communities are trained the use of CRiSTAL as to analyse local climate – poverty linkages. National workshops and dialogues will be held to raise awareness amidst government and Parliamentarians on climate–poverty linkages and feed outputs into the national PRSP Strategy (SCADD) so that it can take adaptation into account.

Strengthening the Capacity of Civil Society

This project included preparing civil society for UNFCCC COP 15 (07 participants), COP16 (2 participants) and sending civil society representatives, incl. journalists, Parliamentarians and private sector representatives onto the official Burkina Faso delegation to UNFCCC COPs in 2010 and 2011. This project is jointly implemented with 6 national NGOs including 3 IUCN members (SOS Sahel, NATURAMA, ANAR) with a strong collaboration with the UNDP national office



Which actors are you working with?

We work with local communities, municipal and district level governments. We work also closely with a broad range of civil society organizations. Within government, we have contacts in a series of Ministries, including: Environment, Agriculture, Water Resources, Livestock, Planning and Gender Ministries. In addition, there is an inter-ministerial National Council on Environment and Sustainable Development (CONEDD), led by the Prime Minister with a Secretariat in the Ministry of Environment. IUCN engages with this Council and in particular with the UNFCCC Focal Point who is in this Secretariat. There is also an inter-ministerial National Steering Committee on the NAPA to ensure the NAPA is strategic and implemented in a coordinated manner.

What have been some of the challenges?

There is a need to have demonstrative activities with demonstrable impacts: have a strong M&E process to show impacts and success stories to share.

What have been some of the lessons learned?

The IUCN office has a good position and unique status with government and civil society membership, also Commission members, on matters of climate change. The institutional arrangements in Burkina Faso have been effective, such as the National Council on Environment and Sustainable Development. The NAPA Steering Committee will be widened to include all climate change issues, with participation of main Ministries and financial and technical partners as observers (incl. IUCN), plus civil society.



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