

Climate Finance Support to Address Carbon Emissions in West Africa

Bilateral Support to Strengthen National Approaches and Effective Regional MRV Collaboration

Eligible Countries:

Benin, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Côte d'Ivoire, the Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, and Togo

Timeframe:

January 2020 - March 2021

Programme:

- Regional Coordinator: Rachel BOTI-DOUAYOUA, Côte d'Ivoire
- Programme Implementer: NovaSphere, Canada
- Technical Advisors: ClimateCHECK, Canada

Introduction:

Recognizing West Africa as one of the world's most vulnerable regions to climate change, this bilateral programme will support the nations of the region to transform development policies to align climate targets with investments to create wealth, reduce energy poverty, enhance social conditions and address the impacts of climate change and air pollution. Fostering interdisciplinary collaboration and enabling South-South partnerships is a fundamental part of this approach.

More specifically, as part of Canada's climate finance pledge to assist the nations of West Africa to achieve nationally determined contributions (NDCs) under the Paris Agreement; the Government of Canada has selected NovaSphere, a Canadian non-profit, to facilitate a range of activities that strengthen climate measurement, reporting and verification (MRV) systems for climate finance, mitigation actions and emission inventories of greenhouse gasses (GHG) and short lived climate pollutants (SLCP).

Funding over the duration of the programme will align with national and regional priorities and provide coordination and technical support to generate opportunities that improve the effectiveness of national climate MRV and strengthen climate governance.

Programme Goals:

- Increase awareness and familiarization of climate targets, policies, and the status of climate MRV systems within each nation;
- Support sovereign approaches to strengthen institutional arrangements and climate governance structures in participating countries;
- Improve effectiveness of national climate MRV (GHG & SLCP) systems;
- Support harmonization of climate MRV within region, including mitigation activities, climate finance, and emission inventories;
- Enable South-South cooperation within West Africa and between West Africa and the Pacific Alliance; and,
- Share experience of Canada's sectoral projects in response to regional MRV priorities.

Initial Activities:

Ideally in each country an inter-ministerial focal point team, composed of two persons, will be designated to work actively and directly with Ms. Rachel BOTI-DOUAYOUA, the Regional Coordinator of the programme.

The intention of a two-person inter-ministerial team will help the nation maximize on the opportunities from the programme; while facilitating domestic dissemination of the programmes outputs across sectors and levels of government. The focal point team should ideally have direct experience in one or more of the following areas; domestic NDC implementation, tracking/reporting Climate Finance, GHG/SLCP emissions inventories, tracking and reporting on mitigation activities and domestic climate priorities, policies and strategies. The team should have the ability to convene relevant national authorities and stakeholders when appropriate, as future workshops will be organized as needed to deliver on national and regional priorities. Support for all travel will be provided. The time commitment from the two-person team is intended to be non-disruptive, and the programme will contract local national technical experts for specific projects. These contracted domestic technical experts will report to the focal point team in each country.

Through active participation in regional technical meetings, the national focal point teams will help shape the initiatives and priorities, build inter-ministerial collaborations and strengthen regional relationships. The Programme will focus directly on climate MRV capacity building including regional collaboration to improve MRV systems for Climate Finance, GHG & SLCP inventories and Mitigation Activities. The first Regional Technical Consultation is currently being organized for early 2020 in the region (information forthcoming).

Background:

Concurrently, Canada is implementing a similar programme of work with the countries of the Pacific Alliance trade block to strengthen climate actions in Chile, Colombia, Mexico, and Peru. ([Link 1](#)) Envisioned in the South-South partnership component of this West Africa Programme, are opportunities to facilitate the exchange of good practices between the countries of West Africa and the Pacific Alliance, that align with each region's MRV priorities— similar to the recent technical visit from professionals in Côte d'Ivoire and Senegal to Chile to study landfill gas to energy projects.

Next Steps:

With the planning of the initial Regional Technical Consultation meeting currently underway, we would appreciate your confirmation of interest, along with an introduction to the two-person focal point team at your earliest convenience.

Ms. Rachel BOTI-DOUAYOUA will be in touch shortly to provide more details and answer any questions you may have.

This project will be undertaken with the financial support of the Government of Canada through the federal Department of Environment and Climate Change

More Information:

Rachel BOTI-DOUAYOUA (WA.MRV.Coordinator@gmail.com) is from Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire and has over 15 years' experience working in the field of climate change, including carbon pricing instruments and emissions markets, climate finance and climate change mitigation.

[NovaSphere](#) develops and manages innovative multi-stakeholder initiatives for climate and sustainability. NovaSphere is a not-for-profit organization based in Canada and cooperates closely with the UNFCCC and UNDRR.

[ClimateCHECK](#) is a leader in assurance and expert services for climate, cleantech and sustainability. ClimateCHECK has helped launch innovative and world class initiatives including the Greenhouse Gas Management Institute and the Climate Chain Coalition.