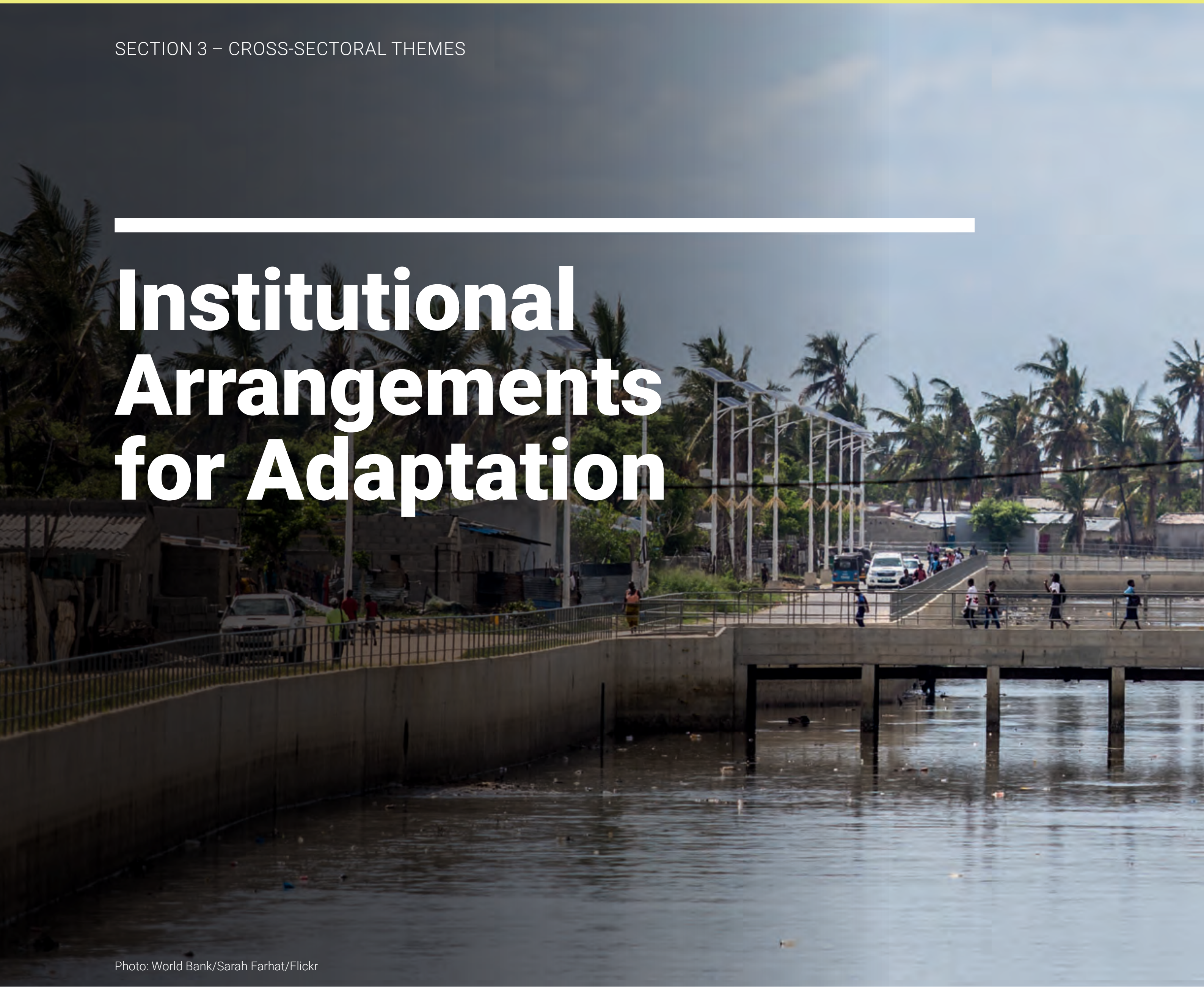
Institutional Arrangements for Adaptation



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KEY MESSAGES

- Setting up an institutional framework for climate governance is crucial to plan, legislate and manage the implementation of adaptation actions in a country. For Africa, progress has been made in setting up the institutional arrangements, but challenges remain when it comes to setting clear roles, mainstreaming finance, and disaster risk reduction considerations throughout the process, and having a monitoring system in place for measuring progress and contributing to transparency, among others.
- The Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) enhancement mechanism provides an important opportunity for African countries to establish clear institutional arrangements to support the successful implementation of adaptation actions and to increase the transparency of their climate adaptation communication. Nevertheless, some countries still state the need for capacity building and finance to support the process.
- Seven African countries have submitted an Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC) and 46 have submitted updated NDCs. Of these, 25 describe their institutional and governance framework in a more detailed manner, 11 do not explicitly mention an institutional framework in place, and 17 signal the intent of developing, adapting, or reinforcing an existing one that is not described with details.

> Africa is staring down the pillars of this global crisis of the climate. But you have shown the courage to set the resilience agenda at the center of your development efforts. And you have put your own money to use in the fight against the climate breakdown. Together, you are leading the African Union, the Climate Vulnerable Forum, the pre-COP to Sharm el-Sheikh. Together, you are an extraordinary coalition for a new way forward for Africa and for the world."
>
> **Ban Ki-moon**
> 8th Secretary-General of the United Nations and Chair of the Global Center on Adaptation

- Joint responsibility between the leading institution of climate change adaptation activities and finance ministries can reinforce alignment with national budget frameworks and help attract international climate finance. For Africa, finance ministries are generally included in some parts of NDC or National Adaptation Plan (NAP) institutional arrangements as budget holders and financing procurement institutions rather than as co-leads.
- Aligning disaster risk policy frameworks with climate adaptation institutions and frameworks instruments is imperative, especially for African countries, which are hardest hit by climate-related disasters.

INTRODUCTION

The 2015 Paris Agreement put forward a global goal of "enhancing adaptive capacity, strengthening resilience, and reducing vulnerability to climate change" (Article 7.1).[1] Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) agreed to submit Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)—non-binding climate action plans including domestic and international actions to mitigate and adapt to climate change. This provided countries with a new opportunity to communicate how they intend to contribute to enhancing adaptive capacity and building resilience. In line with the Paris Agreement, Parties were asked to submit enhanced NDCs in 2020.[2]

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One crucial element of the enhancement process is establishing clear institutional arrangements to support the successful implementation of adaptation actions.[3] Parties of the UNFCCC are encouraged to set institutional arrangements that provide transparency to the process through their NDCs.[4] "Institutional arrangements," as referred to in this chapter, include the policies, systems, and processes that governments use to plan, legislate, and manage their activities to fulfill their climate mandates and international commitments.[5]

A 2019 report on enhancing NDCs by the World Resources Institute and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) suggested that when establishing institutional arrangements during the NDC enhancement process, countries identify a lead institution and ensure intra-governmental coordination that accounts for the inclusion of all relevant ministries, other non-governmental stakeholders, and parliament, as also alignment with other development and sectoral processes.[6] Furthermore, governance practices for climate-resilient development are expected to be most effective when both formal (e.g. the law) and informal (e.g. local customs and rituals) institutional arrangements are integrated, thereby enabling ongoing coordination across levels of governance.[7]

For Africa, of the 53 UNFCCC-affiliated countries, seven have submitted only an Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC) and 46 have submitted updated NDCs.[8] GCA's analysis of African NDCs revealed a wide variation in the details provided by individual countries of institutional arrangements for the implementation and tracking of their climate actions: 25 describe their governance framework in a detailed manner, 11 do not explicitly mention an institutional framework in place, and 17 signal the intent of developing, adapting, or reinforcing an existing one that is not described with details. The National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) also provide detailed information on country governance for adaptation, though these are considered more a national planning process than an international communication process.[9] Only nine African countries have developed and submitted a NAP since 2020.[10]

GCA's State and Trends in Adaptation 2021 (STA21) report examined the institutional arrangements for finance and the efforts to mainstream climate change in national planning and finance in five African countries. The STA21 analysis found that while significant strides have been made in integrating climate adaptation and resilience into long-term planning, there is still room for improvement. Many institutional arrangements for the NDCs do not include the Ministry of Finance as

a co-lead in the UNFCCC process, but mostly as budget provider.

This chapter first describes and highlights the utility of toolkits for assessing institutional arrangements, namely the World Bank's Climate Change Institutional Assessment (CCIA) and the Capacity for Disaster Reduction Initiative's Digital Tool for Disaster Risk Reduction Capacity Diagnosis and Planning. It then presents an analysis of the institutional arrangements described in 10 selected African country NDCs or NAPs, first outlining a general emerging pattern and then drawing out specific country examples related to implementation, finance, and institutional arrangements for Monitoring, Reporting, and Verification (MRV) systems. The final section highlights the benefits of embedding disaster risk reduction (DRR) and disaster risk management (DRM) into a country's institutional framework, focusing on the case of Malawi as a good example. Lastly, policy recommendations are provided for the way forward.

INSTITUTIONAL ASSESSMENT TOOLS FOR ADAPTATION

The Climate Change Institutional Assessment (CCIA)

Climate change creates short- and long-term impacts on several sectors of the economy, environment, and society. These challenges need to be met with effective coordination between multiple public and private actors for action to be planned, implemented, and sustained over time.

The World Bank has developed the CCIA as a tool to identify the strengths and weaknesses of a country's institutional framework for addressing the governance challenges that climate change poses.[11] The assessment tool is for government officials participating in policy, planning, implementation, and finance. It can be used by governments at any stage of the development of their climate change institutional framework.

The CCIA is being used in the World Bank's new Country Climate and Development Reports (CCDRs). These are core diagnostic reports that integrate climate change and development considerations that will help countries prioritize the most impactful actions that reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and boost adaptation.[12] The CCDRs build on data and rigorous research and identify main pathways to reduce climate vulnerabilities, including the costs and challenges as well as benefits and opportunities from doing so. The reports suggest concrete, priority actions to support the low-carbon, resilient transition. CCDRs will feed into other core World Bank Group diagnostics, country engagements, and operations, and will help attract funding and direct financing for high-impact climate action.

CCIA focuses on five pillars crucial to consider when designing and planning the institutional arrangements for climate governance of a country, which are: organization; planning; public finance; subnational governments and state-owned enterprises; and accountability.

The organization pillar focuses on assessing the way a country's institutions in charge of climate change policy are organized. CCIA appraises the regulatory framework, functional mandates, government coordination, and technical capacity of government agencies to support and carry out climate change policy. The pillar aims to understand the scope of framework legislation (long-term targets, risk and vulnerability assessments, climate strategies and plans, etc.), the assignment and implementation of core mandates, the scope of horizontal coordination arrangements, and in-house climate expertise, among others.

The planning pillar focuses on evaluating a country's systems for climate change risk and vulnerability assessments, strategies, and plans—assessing the consistency of goals with policies. It considers the long-term strategies (i.e. country long-term objectives and targets for resilience and adaptation, forward-looking development strategies), medium-term strategies (consistency of a country's NDC with sector targets, adaptation goals, cost estimates), availability of climate risk and vulnerability assessments, integration of adaptation into national development plans, and assignment of MRV functions, among others.


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The public finance pillar focuses on how a country has integrated its climate strategies, plans, and policies into the fiscal and public financial management systems and its practices and mobilization of resources for climate action. The pillar considers the integration of climate change into fiscal risks and expenditure plans; the integration of climate change considerations into infrastructure governance regulation, strategies, and planning; green procurement regulation; and the institutional framework for mobilization of climate finance, among others.

The pillar on subnational governments and state-owned enterprises focuses on the management of climate change within the intergovernmental system and state-owned enterprises, as well as incentives for climate action and the capacity of subnational governments. The pillar includes functional assignment coordination and capacity, subnational climate finance, and strategic and land-use planning.

The accountability pillar focuses on transparency and stakeholder engagement mechanisms for civil society, the private sector, and other stakeholder involvement in climate change policy processes. It also considers the roles of expert advisory and oversight institutions that ensure accountability and transparency. The pillar considers the availability and effective communication of key information, requirements for engagement with diverse stakeholders (e.g. the private sector, civil society, the scientific community) in the planning process, the mandate and authority of independent expert advisory bodies, audit institution reviews of government climate change policy, and the authority of courts to review compliance with the regulatory framework for climate action, among others.

The World Bank emphasizes that the government institutions should coordinate to carry out climate change policy based on medium- and long-term plans and goals. Additionally, vertical and horizontal intergovernmental coordination arrangements, alignment of national policy with international commitments, and a solid accountability system are crucial factors for a well-structured institutional framework.

The CADRI Digital Tool for Disaster Risk Reduction Capacity Diagnosis and Planning

The Capacity for Disaster Reduction Initiative (CADRI) is a global partnership integrated by 20 humanitarian and development organizations that give countries access to expertise in DDR and climate change adaptation (CCA).[13] It was launched in June 2007 at the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction. CADRI seeks to advance knowledge and good practices in DDR and implement a more coherent approach to capacity development across the humanitarian and development realms.

CADRI's newest tool, the CADRI Digital Tool for Disaster Risk Reduction Capacity Diagnosis and Planning,[14] was designed to support countries in their efforts to strengthen their national and local capacities for reducing disaster and climate-related risks. A core component is the question bank, reflecting the collective DDR and CCA experience and knowledge of the CADRI partnership members. This is a live document that users have the opportunity to contribute to by recommending adjustments to existing questions or adding new ones.

Registered users have access to the tool functionalities with which design, planning, and implementation capacity assessments can be made. These assessments can be comprehensive or focused on specific sectors and hazards. Non-registered users have access to the question data bank and can perform customized searches for specific guidance on key issues to consider when building DRR and CCA capacities at national and local levels.

The tool allows users to:

- Draw up capacity reports on: DRR and Capacity Diagnosis, Disaster Preparedness Capacity Diagnosis, CCA Capacity Diagnosis, Risk Information Capacity Diagnosis.
- Create projects and teams: The tool functionality allows for a global database of DRR and CCA experts. The profiles can be used during the design and planning phases to identify suitable experts.
- Customize questionnaires using the question data bank to match the scope of the capacity diagnosis they are planning to carry out.

NDC AND NAP—AN ANALYSIS OF INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

NDCs and NAPs are considered valuable resources to understand how the institutional arrangements in different countries in Africa work. Nevertheless, Global Center on Adaptation (GCA) analysis shows that they only capture a limited part of the formal and informal governance setting in the countries.

For the analysis, the NDCs or NAPs of 10 African countries from the UNFCCC registry were used, where such documents were considered to demonstrate clear institutional arrangements and were written in English. There was also an attempt to make the selection regionally balanced (ideally two institutional frameworks analyzed per African sub-region). The 10 countries selected for this study are: Egypt, Liberia, Tanzania, Namibia, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, South Sudan, Malawi, Angola, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC).

This section first outlines general patterns of institutional arrangements emerging from the analysis, followed by a closer look at the elements of NDC/NAP implementation, MRV, and finance. The section ends by highlighting the role of DRR and DRM components within a country's institutional framework. Throughout, we provide country-specific examples and showcase examples of good practice. It is important to note, however, that a deeper analysis of the full body of NDCs is necessary to draw more concrete conclusions and generalizable recommendations.

General Patterns

Generally, the role of the supreme institutional body responsible for climate change is given, by a decree or law, to a specific ministry, government office, or institution. The process of creating a mandate to set up the institutions in charge of climate governance is agreed upon by a parliament or congress or comes directly from the President or Prime Minister. Supreme institutional bodies can be either a National Climate Change Steering Committee chaired by the Vice-President's Office (as is the case in Egypt, Liberia, and Tanzania, among others), or a Ministry of Environment, which might be the supervisor or chair of a Directorate, Steering Committee, or management authority (this is the case in Sierra Leone, South Sudan, Malawi, Angola, and the DRC, among others).

The supreme institutional bodies are often supported by a technical secretariat or committee that aids in providing technical assistance and building capacity. The technical secretariat can be embedded within the Directorate, Steering Committee, or management authority, or a separate committee can be established to ensure the implementation of its daily activities. For Sierra Leone, for example, consultative committees provide policy and implementation advice to the Steering Committee on relevant issues and support the NAP implementation through research, capacity building, and awareness-raising.

An institution is set as the focal point for the UNFCCC processes and oversees the reporting commitments of the progress of the NDC and NAP actions. In some cases, the supreme institutional body, the technical secretariat, and the institution in charge of being the focal point for the UNFCCC process can be the same (e.g. in Namibia).

Countries often report having aligned their NDC or NAP actions to general development, climate change, or environment mid- and long-term strategies and policies—allowing the institutions to coordinate climate actions and avoid policy misalignment. Examples of this are Liberia's National Policy and Response Strategy on Climate Change (2018), Tanzania's National Climate Change Response Strategy (2021), and Angola's National Strategy for Climate Change (2017, amended 2021), among others.

To ensure transparency, MRV systems are planned or are set up to guarantee countries can track the progress of their NDCs and NAPs and communicate their results. The institution in charge of this process can be the same as the focal point of the UNFCCC, but in some cases, organizations from outside the government can oversee tracking progress (e.g. in Tanzania, this is done by the National Carbon Monitoring Centre at the Sokoine University of Agriculture).

Financial issues, such as resource mobilization and reporting on finance of the countries, are made by financing bodies that can be the Ministry of Economy or Finance (e.g. South Sudan, Rwanda, Malawi, DRC, among others) or the local government, although in some instances this is not clearly stated. The integration of the Ministry of Finance with the Ministry of the Environment as co-leads that provide policy oversight, coordination, and resource mobilization has been observed in the case of Sierra Leone.

Finally, to connect the national to the local level, national-level government bodies and ministries can act as implementing entities, with local-level government bodies responsible for executing adaptation interventions on the ground (e.g. Tanzania, DRC, South Sudan). Details of this matter are not always mentioned in the NDCs or NAPs.

Next, we highlight some of the patterns of NDC/NAP implementation, MRV, and finance that emerged from the analysis.

Implementation

Generally, implementation of the NDC is overseen and/or coordinated by an overarching committee or governmental body, while execution of the interventions or actions is undertaken by relevant sectoral or provincial ministries. The overseeing committee for implementation is often the supreme institutional body, although this was not the case for all. Some NDCs reported implementation plans that were already in place, while others outlined plans for NDC implementation that were still to be formalized. For those that reported plans already in place, the sectoral or provincial ministries with which responsibilities lie are generally articulated and named; whereas for those communicating future implementation plans, the roles and responsibilities of specific ministries tend to be less clear. Tanzania and the DRC are two examples of countries with NDC/NAP implementation plans in place, with a clearly defined coordinating body and local sectoral/provincial ministries in charge of implementation. Angola and Liberia are two examples of countries still at the planning stage.

In Tanzania, the National Climate Change Steering Committee (NCCSC) and Zanzibar Climate Change Steering Committee (ZCCSC) are responsible for guiding the coordination and implementation of the NDC. They also ensure cross-sectoral participation. Sector ministries, in collaboration with Local Government Authorities, are responsible for implementing the adaptation interventions and are responsible for preparing sector-specific initiatives. The Tanzanian NDC stipulates that initiatives should detail each action to be undertaken and how they will be achieved; a timeframe for their implementation;

the means of tracking their progress; the source of funding; and alignment with other national and international policies and strategies to attract international climate finance.[15]

In the DRC, the National Committee on Climate Change coordinates climate efforts with relevant ministries and governmental bodies, as well as with local governments through its engagement with the Provincial Committees on Climate Change. Additionally, the DRC has a Working Group on Adaptation Measures, which coordinates the implementation of adaptation-specific measures in the country with all relevant ministries and the Ministry of the Environment and Sustainable Development.

In Angola, the coordination oversight of implementation will lie with the Ministry of Culture, Tourism, and Environment (MCTA), while implementation will be undertaken by ministries in charge of core adaptation contributions. Angola created the National Commission on Climate Change and Biodiversity (CNACB) in 2012 with the mandate to create enabling conditions for the execution and implementation of the National Strategy for Climate Change and to develop a national investment plan for climate change, drought, desertification, and biodiversity. Angola's NDC outlines a proposed redefinition of the Commission's responsibilities, functions, and objectives.[16] It was remarked that extending participation in this commission to provincial governments is crucial for the decentralization process. In light of this, it is proposed that the composition of the Commission incorporates other ministerial departments and public institutions relevant to the implementation of NDC, and that coordination and cooperation efforts across different sectors of NDC initiatives are increased.

Liberia's updated NDC outlines the consultative process through which the country's first NDC was reviewed to inform the updated NDC.[17] With support from the NDC Partnership, Liberia has initiated the process of developing an NDC Implementation Plan. The plan will detail short- and long-term actions required to reach the climate adaptation goals outlined in the revised NDC. It will define the roles and responsibilities of relevant institutions and institutional arrangements for implementation, coordination, reporting, support, and finance. The implementation plan also describes an MRV system to track progress toward the achievement of the NDC targets.

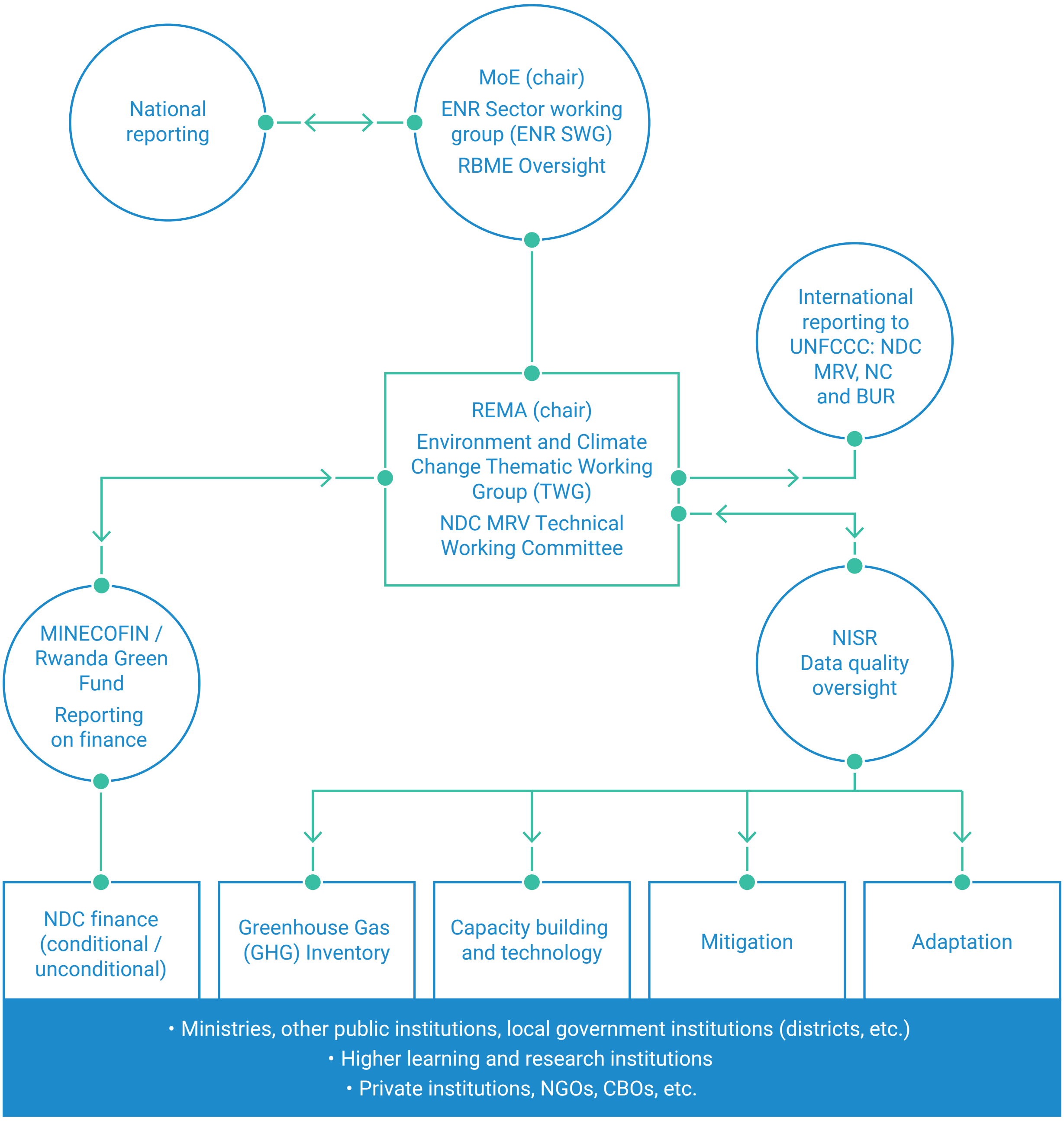
Monitoring, Reporting and Verification Systems

An effective MRV system is necessary for successfully implementing adaptation measures outlined in the NDCs, monitoring their effectiveness, and crucially attracting and facilitating access to climate finance. Some countries outline a robust MRV system, while others signal intent to develop one or report the need to strengthen an existing one. Our review indicates that all countries recognize the importance of MRV for NDC transparency and accountability.

Rwanda outlines a robust MRV system with a coordinated institutional framework and clearly defined ministry roles and responsibilities. The Rwanda Environment Management Authority (REMA) has the overall responsibility for and chairs the Environment and Climate Change Thematic Working Group, which hosts a national planning forum. This forum hosts a core team that forms the NDC MRV technical working committee with the following responsibilities: creating guidelines and common standards, templates, and formats for reporting MRV results; defining common data sources and methods for compiling NDC MRV results; endorsing the NDC MRV and communicating results for upstream NDC MRV-based policy and strategic decision-making; and institutional strengthening and capacity building.

Primary data is generally collected at the local/district level, which has direct linkages with sectors and institutions for sourcing relevant sector or priority action-specific data. This is done with support from multiple district-level stakeholders through the Joint Action Development Forum, which facilitates the engagement of NGOs, the private sector, and development partners to provide inputs into the NDC MRV process. The Ministry of Local Government (MINALOC) provides coordination oversight, and the National Institute of Statistics Rwanda (NISR) validates national statistics. Rwanda's NDC outlines line and lead ministries responsible for monitoring and/or reporting specific adaptation indicators. It also outlines high-level national or global indicators in place to harmonize reporting on climate adaptation and resilience.

Figure 1. Institutional Arrangements for Tracking Rwanda's NDC MRV Implementation



Source: Reproduced from Figure 7.1 of Republic of Rwanda (2021)[18]

Namibia mentions current efforts to strengthen its existing institutional arrangements for a robust MRV system. A conceptual MRV was presented in its Biennial Update Reports 1 (2014) and 2 (2016), with the intent of its implementation. Namibia reports that some progress has been made, but that this progress is still insufficient to meet reporting requirements. One major gap identified is the inability of the system to effectively aggregate the cumulative effects of individual adaptation actions.

Liberia has an MRV system in place for mitigation actions. For adaptation, the country has a monitoring and evaluation (M&E) system. Plans for an MRV system that tracks the progress of NDC implementation further than mitigation elements are under way, which will build upon the existing structures for M&E and inter-sectoral coordination. The country stipulates that it will require support to ensure the strengthening of this MRV system, including institutional arrangements and responsibilities, developing indicators, and methodologies.

Finance

The STA21 analysis showed the importance of the commitment of countries like Kenya, Rwanda, Ethiopia, Uganda, and South Africa to integrate climate change considerations into planning, budgeting, implementation, and decision-making at the national and county levels, and across all economic sectors. Ensuring joint responsibility between the leading institutions of CCA activities and finance ministries can strengthen alignment with national budget frameworks.

In the case of Sierra Leone, an Inter-Ministerial Committee (IC) and a Parliamentary Committee (PC), were created to gain the political and legislative support needed for implementing the NAP. The IC is co-chaired by the Ministries of Environment and Finance, which in collaboration provide policy oversight, coordination, and resource mobilization for the NAP. With some other countries, the Ministry of Economy or Finance is responsible for the procurement of resource mobilization and reporting on finance of the countries, but they do not seem to co-lead the process with the supreme institutional bodies (e.g. South Sudan, Rwanda, DRC, among others). These ministries can establish which actions are conditional to international finance and which ones can be committed through internal sources (i.e. national, provincial, local governments, or private institutions).

In some cases, finance ministries are provided with more roles and responsibilities. For instance, Rwanda's Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning (MINECOFIN), in addition to reporting on finance, is involved in the overall coordination of M&E activities (including NDC MRV) from planning, data collection, and reporting at all levels, among other responsibilities.

It appears that institutional arrangements for finance, similarly to almost all other elements explained here, usually consider mitigation and adaptation jointly and do not report individualized institutional arrangements for each type of climate action.

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EMBEDDING DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND MANAGEMENT IN INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR ADAPTATION

The importance of DRR and DRM institutional frameworks, policies, and processes is being increasingly recognized at national and international levels.[19] There is also a strong consensus on the urgent need to move from response strategies to disaster preparedness and risk reduction. International commitments on DRR are reflected in the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (2015–2030) and its predecessor, the Hyogo Framework for Action (2005–2015).[20] Aligning policy frameworks with international instruments and enhancing national DRR strategies and coordination efforts is imperative, especially for African countries, which are hit very hard by disasters, particularly in terms of impact on livelihoods, physical and natural resources, and ecosystems.[21]

The water chapter in STA21 presents an analysis of the linkages between DRM and climate adaptation within the water sector in Africa.[22] It shows that Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) and DRR generally do not have coordinated actions and programs under different institutions. The analysis shows that the growing urgency of climate adaptation actions makes this coordination even more critical. The water chapter in STA21 goes into further technical detail about this analysis.

DRR and DRM together constitute a dynamic process that needs continuous adjustments, decision-making, and cooperation at multiple levels among a wide range of institutions and actors, including government, non-governmental organizations, private agencies, communities, households, and individuals. Optimal institutional management requires flexibility to adapt response measures according to the unique and ever-changing features of the current disaster.[23] Greater participation in public decision-making can improve efficiency, equity, and resource management in the context of DRM. Decentralizing government decision-making, through having clearly defined stakeholder roles to inform or control the process, may increase public sector accountability and effectiveness.[24] Autonomy in decision-making of local agencies during a disaster is central to timely and effective disaster response.[25]

Thus, there is clear value in integrating DRR and DRM into national institutional arrangements for increased coordination and more effective disaster response and preparedness efforts. The importance of this is recognized by countries, as presented in their NDCs, to varying extents, and is also integrated into broader country institutional frameworks to varying extents. For example, Namibia presents DRM as an adaptation priority area of which the Ministry of Urban and Rural Development (MURD) is the leading ministry and includes one targeted action within this priority area of improving information flow and communications between formal structures at the national, regional, and community levels. Liberia's Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) coordinates with the National Disaster Management Agency on the fulfillment of its NDC and provided inputs to the

consultative process when designing the NDC. Egypt states alignment of its NDC to its National Strategy for Adaptation to Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction.

Malawi presents a good example of integrating DRR and DRM into the country's institutional arrangements, as outlined in its NDC (Figure 2).[26] The Malawi Government has a national planning process that involves a pillar, enabler, sector, and district-level coordination structure. Medium- to long-term plans are coordinated by the National Planning Commission (NPC). The Ministry of Economic Planning, Development and Public Sector Reforms (MOEPD&PSR) tracks the short-term implementation of sectoral priorities through sector working groups (SWGs).

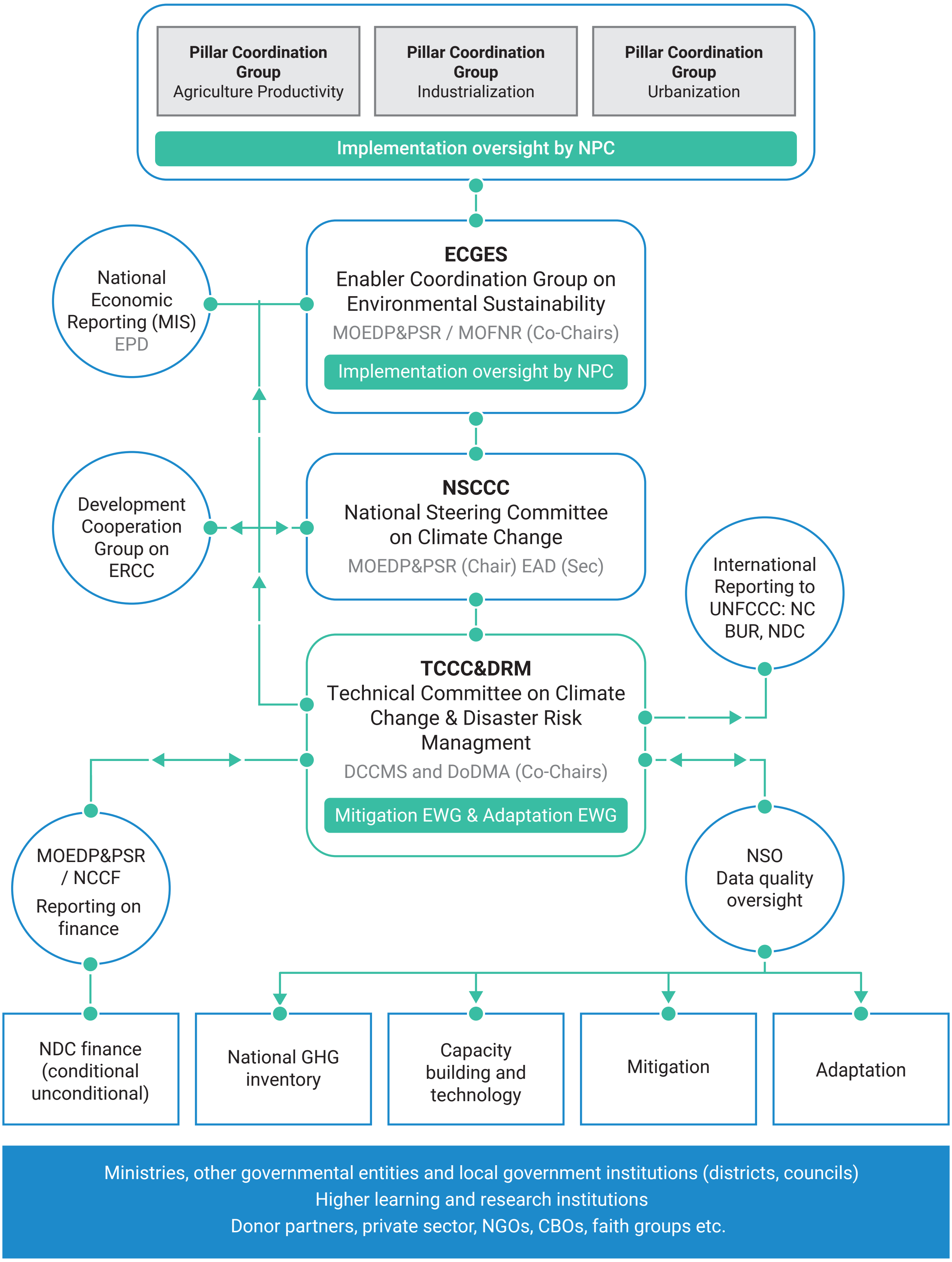
Photo: Tommy Trenchard/Panos Pictures

Three Pillar Coordination Groups (PCGs) are responsible for spearheading implementation and reporting progress and are supported by the Enabler Coordination Group on Environmental Sustainability (ECGES). The PCGs and ECGES work closely with the existing National Steering Committee on Climate Change (NSCCC) and the joint Technical Committee on Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management (TCCC&DRM) to define multi-year priorities and to advise the Government on the resources required for meeting these priorities. The NSCCC and TCCC&DRM receive policy and implementation oversight from the NPC through the ECGES.

The TCCC&DRM provides technical guidance to the NSCCC on all DRM and resilience issues in Malawi. It includes representatives from government entities, as well as from civil society, the private sector, and donors. The committee is co-chaired by the Department of Climate Change and Meteorological Services (DCCMS) and the Department of Disaster Management Affairs (DODMA). Expert Working Groups (EWGs) provide technical guidance and report to the TCCC&DRM. These working groups are established according to requirements and include adaptation and climate finance. Through the Adaptation EWG, the TCCC&DRM serves as the national coordinator for all national institutions that implement sectoral adaptation measures, receive finance and other support, and oversee NDC tracking and reporting at the national level. The TCCC&DRM also ensures that Malawi's NDC MRV system links adaptation, mitigation, and finance, as well as support for capacity building and technology transfer.

Further, Malawi showcases good institutional arrangements, specifically for implementing and reporting on adaptation priorities. The NDC outlines 10 strategic adaptation options relating to three pillars: institutional framework; knowledge, technology, and financing; and resilience of the most vulnerable. Strategic adaptation actions under the institutional frameworks pillar include the establishment of institutional arrangements for multi-sector coordination of climate change actions, as well as testing and institutionalization of mechanisms to integrate CCA into national and sectoral plans and planning instruments, including annual sectoral budgets and guidelines.

Figure 2. Institutional Arrangements for Tracking Malawi's NDC Implementation



Source: Reproduced from Figure 7-1 in Republic of Malawi (2021).[27]

RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the review of strategic documents and institutional arrangement for climate adaptation action in Africa, the following policy recommendations emerge:

1. The climate adaptation institutional frameworks in Africa have, for the most part, set up institutional arrangements. There is still work to be done on mainstreaming finance and DRR considerations throughout the process. It is also important to clarify roles of different agencies. As African countries improve their NDCs, clarifying the institutional arrangements would be an important area.
2. Ensuring joint responsibility between the lead institution of CCA activities and finance ministries can strengthen alignment with national budget frameworks. Integrating climate strategies, plans, and policies into the fiscal and public financial management systems can allow countries to maximize resource expenditure and their impact.
3. An effective MRV system is crucial for NDC transparency and accountability. It is a necessary tool for countries to successfully implement adaptation measures, to monitor their effectiveness, and for attracting and facilitating access to climate finance.
4. Strengthening the five CCIA pillars when designing and planning the institutional arrangements for climate governance can help to establish clear institutional arrangements to support the implementation of adaptation actions.
5. Aligning disaster risk policy frameworks with climate adaptation institutions and frameworks instruments is imperative, especially for African countries, which are hardest hit by climate-related disasters.

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