ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES IN AFRICA:
Climate Change

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HUMAN WELL-BEING AND ENVIRONMENT IN AFRICA

- Environmental risk factors account for about 23% of all deaths in Africa.
- 26% of overall per capita wealth in low income countries tied to environmental assets.
- More than 70% of Africans depend directly on natural resources for their livelihoods.
- Devastating effect of climate change.
Climate change is NOT just a future problem

Warming of the climate system is unequivocal

- Increasing global air and ocean temperatures
- Rising global average sea level
- Reductions of snow and ice
Climate Change Vulnerability in Africa

The vulnerabilities:

- Desertification
- Sea level rise
- Reduced freshwater availability
- Cyclones
- Coastal erosion
- Deforestation
- Loss of forest quality
- Degradation of woodlands
- Coral bleaching
- Spread of malaria
- Impacts on food security

Sources: Anna Balança, 2002.
Freshwater Stress and Scarcity in Africa by 2025

Water scarcity in 2025
Less than 1,000 m³/capita/year

Water stress in 2025
1,000 to 1,700 m³/capita/year

Global Water Stress and Scarcity

Responses

- Mitigation options: Energy sector, REDD+, Land Use, Land use change and forestry, maximizing opportunities from the international carbon market

- Adaptation measures: Disaster reduction and risk management, building economic and social resilience, climate proofing

- Supporting and enabling measures: capacity development, financing, technology development and transfer
AFRICA GREEN ECONOMY INITIATIVE

- Sustainable energy and energy efficiency
- Sustainable transport
- Ecological infrastructure
- Sustainable agriculture