



Report on Media Training on use of Climate Information in Development Planning, Cameroun

By

Prof. Olivier Nana Nzepa, ESSTIC

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Plan of the presentation

- Introduction
- The Media training
- The impact
- The outcomes
- Proposals for way forward

INTRODUCTION

Cameroon is presented as a 4 seasons countries:

- a light rainy season from May to June
- a short dry season from July to October,
- a heavy rainy season from October to November,
- a long dry season from December to May.

But on the 7th of December 2021, we acknowledge the 7th tunderstorm of the month

What is happening is confusing:



Growing conflicts and food insecurity:



Irregular rains, prolonged dry seasons threaten Cameroon's agri economy



Climate unpredictions Confuse Farmers

- Cameroon's farmers run into trouble any time unusual climate change occurs;
- Between 2016 and 2018, early rains two years in a row pushed the farmers to begin planting ahead of time, especially in the south.
- The rain soon dried up, causing confusion over the farming calendar and leaving crops withering in the fields.
- When the rain arrived abnormally in late January and early February, many farmers set to work planting crops like maize, beans and groundnuts, believing the growing season had begun.

Not ending raining season also confuses farmers



Training from June 25 to 26, 2018

- **This was the context in which we for :**
- More than 30 participants from public, private and online media with the overall objective of:
 - informing participants about the challenges of climate communication
 - equip them with methods and techniques for collecting climate information and generating climate information services.

The training modules were as follows

- Definition of climate, meteorology, climate information and climate data;
- Visual representations of climate change;
- Climate information products that could make headlines;
- Characteristics and production of climate services;
- The usefulness and role of climate information and services in development planning and policies.

Reflections: participants and trainers

- *“The training was a real eye-opener for me. The role of climate information services in Africa’s development is often ignored or not properly understood.”*
DEBOUA Vanessa, ASMAC student YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE
- *“Increasingly climate information is available from the internet or via mobile apps. Farmers may not receive information in this way; they may get information from the radio, or from chiefs or elders. The training showed us how civil society, youth groups and the media have an important role to play as the mouthpiece for local groups such as farmers – ensuring their needs are fed up and into the processes of generating climate information.”*
- Caroline Elongue, workshop’s Translator
- *“The training showed us how scientific information can be integrated with indigenous knowledge. This is critical: indigenous information has long been used by farmers and they see it as a reliable tool for predicting climate change. If media could help farmers understand the links between indigenous and scientific knowledge, they are more likely to trust climate information”*
- *Elias Ntungwe Ngalame, Pan African Media Alliance for Climate Change (PAMACC)*

Reflections: participants and trainers

(Cn'td)

- *“At the beginning of training a number of young people admitted they were not aware of the topic of climate change; but they showed a clear willingness to learn. By the end of the workshop they had taken full ownership and were asking where they could get more information, where can get the get the best research, will there be further modules? Ann Kobia, Pan African Climate Justice Alliance (PACJA)*
- *“It's the media's job to get the importance of climate information to be understood and appreciated by the wider population. As a journalist, if you don't understand a concept properly, you can't tell a story accurately. NGA NKOU Prosper, Equinoxe TV*
- *“You could tell by the energy in the room during the workshop that the media practitioners had really connected with the topic; they absorbed the material with genuine enthusiasm and by the end showed a real thirst to continue learning. The media really understood the relevance of climate information in light of the threats of climate change – and their duty as intermediaries to report on it accurately.” Professor Olivier Nana Nzepa, Trainer*
- *“Climate change is an issue of major concern in Africa. Journalists must provide the public with information that anticipates and predicts events”*

Changes produced

- Networks formed
- More reports on climate and its effects in a growing number of newspapers;
- Meteo forecast in the main electronics media;

Way forward proposals

- We still lack the missing links
 - Parliamentarians;
 - Government
 - Decision makers at high level
 - Private sectors
 - Agricultural organizations
 - Reinforce intellectual leadership in the country and in the Neighbors

A scenic landscape featuring a calm lake in the foreground, surrounded by rolling green hills and mountains in the distance. The sky is a clear, bright blue with a few wispy clouds. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and natural.

Thanks for your kind attention