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SCALE-West Africa SCALE- West Africa

Regional Mission:

To scale-up climate resilience by fostering multi-actor engagements and dialogue to speed-up climate adaptation and mitigation actions, leverage climate finance and reduce regional vulnerability in West Africa.

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SCALE-West Africa

(2024 - 2030)

Our Vision

Our vision is a West Africa where ecosystems are thriving, biodiversity is protected, and communities are empowered to sustainably manage and benefit from their natural resources.



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Scaling-up Climate Action, Leadership and Engagement Framework



The Backdrop

Climate change is a significant threat to West Africa, which is already facing numerous socio-economic challenges. The urgency for climate action in this region is emphasized by factors such as extreme weather events, food and water insecurity, health risks, and socio-economic instability. Scientific studies highlight the need for policy interventions in energy transition, climate finance, agroecology, land degradation neutrality, forest restoration, and renewable energy.



Increasing Climate Risks

Increasing Extreme Weather Events: West Africa faces more frequent and severe droughts, floods, and heatwaves, disrupting agriculture and displacing communities, with the 2021 IPCC report projecting worsening conditions, especially in the Sahel and coastal areas of Nigeria and Ghana.

Increasing Food and Water Insecurity: Reliance on rain-fed agriculture makes West Africa vulnerable to climate variability, with irregular rainfall threatening food security and increasing famine risks. The shrinking Lake Chad and a projected 10-20% reduction in crop yields

by 2050 due to changing rainfall patterns and rising temperatures exemplify this crisis (Lebel et al., 2022).

Increasing Health and Socio-Economic Risks: Climate change exacerbates health risks by expanding vector-borne diseases like malaria and dengue fever (Caminade et al., 2023) and causes socio-economic instability, leading to loss of livelihoods, forced migration, and conflicts over scarce resources (Raleigh et al., 2021)



Scaling-up Climate Action, Leadership and Engagement (SCALE-West Africa) Framework

The highest risk in West Africa lies in the absence of climate action. Urgent and coordinated efforts are essential to mitigate this pressing threat through robust policy frameworks, sustainable development initiatives, and enhanced community resilience measures.

The **Scaling-up Climate Action, Leadership and Engagement (SCALE-West Africa) Framework** aims to facilitate connective dialogue bringing together governments, communities, private actors, farmers and vulnerable communities to amplify regional efforts and cooperation in leveraging global climate finance to scale-up climate adaptation and mitigation actions in West Africa.

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Six Calls to Action Led by SCALE-West Africa

1. Climate Finance

Action: SCALE-West Africa calls on governments to create transparent and accountable frameworks for climate finance distribution, prioritize projects that benefit the most vulnerable populations, and strengthen partnerships with international finance institutions to secure long-term funding.

2. Energy Transition and Renewable Energy

Action: SCALE-West Africa calls on governments to expedite the implementation of national renewable energy plans, ensure favorable policies for private investments in clean energy, and enhance regional cooperation for technology transfer and capacity building in renewable energy sectors.

3. Agroecological Transition

Action: SCALE-West Africa calls on national and local governments to invest in farmer education programs, support research in agroecological methods, and incentivize the adoption of sustainable agricultural practices through subsidies and technical assistance.

Action: Support a Rights-Based Agroecological Transformation in West Africa. Women farmers in West Africa are pivotal in producing and

managing food that sustains their families and communities. Their motivation lies in their commitment to providing healthy diets for their communities, thus enhancing local food security and well-being. Emphasizing rights-based and gender-transformative approaches ensures that agroecology empowers women as agents of change, promoting equitable access to resources and decision-making processes within the agricultural sector.

4. Beyond Land Degradation Neutrality

Action: SCALE-West Africa calls on governments to act on national commitments to land restoration targets, promote community-based land management projects, and integrate land degradation neutrality goals into broader development plans.

5. Forest Restoration

Action: SCALE-West Africa calls on governments to enforce stricter anti-deforestation regulations, support community-led reforestation projects, and provide financial and technical assistance for the restoration of degraded forest lands.

6. The Kigali Cooling Efficiency Program (K-CEP)

Action: The time for decisive action is now. We urge West African leaders in, policymakers, and stakeholders in Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Senegal, and The Gambia to join forces in this critical fight against





climate change. By prioritizing efficient and sustainable cooling, we can protect public health, ensure economic stability, and achieve significant environmental benefits for our region and the world. Stand with us for a cooler, greener future.



Structure and Governance of SCALE-West Africa

SCALE-West Africa operates under a flat structure consisting of a Reference Group, a Research and Knowledge Hub, a Training and Capacity Building Unit, and a Policy and Advocacy Unit.

The Reference Group; working with members from NGOs, academia, policy actors and community leaders, to oversee strategic planning and ensures alignment with SCALE-West Africa's vision and mission by incorporating diverse stakeholder perspectives.

The Research and Knowledge Hub; gathers data, conducts studies, and maintains an online resource portal to support evidence-based decision-making.

The Training and Capacity Building Unit; develops training programs and workshops, enhancing skills and knowledge through local partnerships.

The Policy and Advocacy Unit; engages in policy dialogue and advocacy campaigns to influence policy changes and drive systemic change. Together, these units ensure effective, inclusive, and sustainable governance of SCALE-West Africa's projects and initiatives.



Partnerships and Collaborations

1. **Academic Institutions:** SCALE-West Africa partners with universities and research institutions for studies and training programs.

2. **Non-Governmental Organizations:** SCALE-West Africa works with NGOs for community outreach and project implementation.
3. **National Policy Agencies:** SCALE-West Africa collaborates with national and regional agencies for policy integration and support.
4. **International Organizations:** SCALE-West Africa engage with international bodies like UNESCO, UNDP, and the African Union for support and alignment with regional initiatives.

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About FIDEP Foundation

Frontier Institute of Development Planning Foundation (FIDEP Foundation) is a leading African-led, regional non-profit research institute established in 2018. Dedicated to bridging the critical gaps between research, policy, and practice, FIDEP Foundation fosters innovative solutions and actionable strategies to address Africa's most pressing developmental challenges. By uniting experts, policymakers, and practitioners from diverse sectors, FIDEP Foundation ensures that its initiatives are both theoretically robust and practically viable, empowering African communities and promoting sustainable development across the continent.

FIDEP Foundation, as a member of the Africa Climate Justice Collective (ACJC), stands in solidarity with global efforts for climate justice, particularly supporting communities disproportionately affected by climate crises. Recently, FIDEP Foundation has also joined Forest Watch Ghana (FWG), advocating for the rights of poor forest users in Ghana. Additionally, FIDEP Foundation participates in the Renewable Energy For Communities Coalition (RE4C), aiming to integrate 10% affordable and decentralized renewable energy into Ghana's energy mix by 2030.





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