

Assessments of Impacts and Adaptations to Climate Change (AIACC)

Linkages between AIACC Regional Studies and National Communications to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

10 December 2002

This document provides summaries of the linkages between each of the AIACC regional studies and the preparation of National Communications to the UNFCCC reported to the AIACC Secretariat as of December 2002.

Project: AF04
PI: R. Scholes
Countries: South Africa
Focus: Biodiversity Conservation and climate change

Past Involvement with National Communications

RJ Scholes was Project Leader for South African national communication projects on greenhouse gas inventory, mitigation of climate change through land use practices, and vulnerability and adaptation of rangelands. He also provided technical expertise for vulnerability and adaptation assessment for plantation forestry. M van der Merwe, and G Midgely, investigators on the AIACC study, provided technical expertise and coordination services on these projects.

RJ Scholes was Project Leader and M van der Mewe and M van Tienhoven provided technical expertise to assist with the initial national communications of both Botswana and Namibia.

Anticipated Participation in Second National Communication

The substantive process for the second national communication has not yet begun in any of the countries of the region. AIACC team expects that they will be involved in some capacity in the South African communication when the process does begin. With respect to neighboring countries, their role in the first national communication was temporary, and included a large component of within country capacity building. They hope that their future involvement in these countries will be advisory only.

Interactions with Persons Responsible for National Communications

R. Scholes meets regularly with Festus Luboyera of the South African Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism, who is person responsible for the South African National Communication. Scholes will brief Luoyera on the AIACC project in South Africa. Luboyera has not had input to the design of the project, but agencies responsible for biodiversity conservation, the key user groups for the study, have had extensive input and are partners in the activity.

The Namibia Ministry of Environment, through their official Dr Phoebe Barnard (who is also the UN CBD contact point), have expressed a strong interest in direct participation in the AIACC project, and are already doing so on an informal basis. Although there was no original plan to engage neighboring countries until late in the process, the AIACC team will alter their plan as much as possible to bring the Namibians in early.

AIACC Links to UNFCCC National Communications

Project: AF07
PI: B. Hewitson
Countries: South Africa, sub-Saharan Africa
Focus: Regional climate modeling and climate change scenarios

Past Involvement with National Communications

B. Hewitson developed preliminary regional climate scenarios for the South African National Communication.

Anticipated Participation in Second National Communication

No formal role as yet.

Interactions with Persons Responsible for National Communications

The national committee responsible for the South African National Communication has been made aware of the activities of this project by the PI and the PI is awaiting further communication from the committee on possible interactions.

Note that the project will produce baseline climate data and projected scenarios of future climate change for sub-Saharan Africa at finer spatial resolution than provided by GCMs. These outputs are of potential utility to all countries in the region for use in preparation of their national communications. Information about these outputs will be communicated to appropriate persons in other countries of the region.

Project: AF14
PI: B. Osman and N. Goutbi
Countries: Sudan
Focus: Increasing resilience of livelihoods to climate change

Past Involvement with National Communications

HCENR, the administering institution for the AIACC project, is the UNFCCC focal point and the implementing agency for the Climate Change Enabling Project in Sudan. The Secretary General of HCENR was responsible for Sudan's First National Communication and the two PIs for AF14 played key roles in its preparation. The individual who is responsible for climate scenarios in AF14, and attended the AIACC scenario training workshop, is responsible for development of Sudan's climate change scenarios.

Stockholm Environment Institute – Boston, which is collaborating with HCENR in the implementation of AF14, provided technical support to Sudan for the preparation of the First National Communication.

Anticipated Participation in Second National Communication

Based upon past involvement, most of the members of the AF14 project team are expected to participate in Sudan's second national communication.

Interactions with Persons Responsible for National Communications

As HCENR is responsible for all activities in Sudan related to climate change, such as the 2nd National Communication, National Adaptation Plan of Action, etc., persons responsible for these activities are members of the AIACC AF14 team and have had input to the objectives, methods and plans for the project. This relationship will assure that there will be continued input from these persons. In addition, AF14 will request a supplemental grant from AIACC to support stakeholder engagement in the project and intends to target the national team on V&A, the technical committee for climate change and NAPA in these activities.

HCENR is fully committed to using the information generated by AIACC AF14 Project in the preparation of the NAPA as well as the 2nd National Communication of Sudan, and to disseminate this information to any related national development planning process such as the Poverty Reduction Strategy.

Project: AF20
PI: A. Gaye
Countries: Senegal, West Africa
Focus: Regional climate scenarios

Past Involvement with National Communications

As a member of the Senegalese National Climate Change committee (SNCC), the AIACC project PI A. Gaye participated in the vulnerability and adaptation studies that were performed for the First National Communication of Senegal

Anticipated Participation in Second National Communication

Process has not yet begun. But as the PI is a member of the SNCC, it is likely that he and possibly others of the AIACC team will participate in the second National Communication of Senegal.

Interactions with Persons Responsible for National Communications

The members of the SNCC are aware of the AIACC project and its potential to provide climate data and scenarios for vulnerability and adaptations studies, as well as the projects capacity building objectives. Exchange of information with the SNCC and incorporation of work of the AIACC project into the next national communication will be facilitated by A. Gaye's membership on the SNCC.

Note that the climate data and scenarios to be generated by the project are potentially also useful for the national communications of other countries in West Africa. Information about these outputs will be communicated to appropriate persons in other countries of the region.

Project: AF38
PI: P. Desanker and M. Ferrao
Countries: Malawi, Zambia, Zimbabwe, and Mozambique (Miombo)
Focus: Integrated assessment of food security, land use, land cover

Past Involvement with National Communications

Two of the project investigators were participants in their country's first National Communication. These individuals attended AIACC training workshops at the suggestion of their national communication committees.

Anticipated Participation in Second National Communication

It is anticipated that the modeling work of the AIACC Miombo project will be drawn upon by the national communications of Malawi, Zambia, Zimbabwe and Mozambique. Planned involvement of members of the national communications teams of these countries in an advisory group will facilitate this outcome (see below).

Members of the Miombo project have played a key role in the development of the NAPA under the UNFCCC. The project is providing examples and methods for rapid assessment under NAPA, and this will be published very soon in the form of a primer with co-funding from Canadian CIDA. They are working with Zambia, Malawi and Mozambique to assist them with development of their NAPAs. The support and activities within AIACC have been added to the team's ability to engage members from these countries and develop the necessary examples and cases to support development of NAPA within the UNFCCC, and through the UNFCCC Least Developed Country Expert Group.

Interactions with Persons Responsible for National Communications

The Miombo AIACC project has developed links with national climate committees in the countries where the project is active, namely Zambia, Malawi, Mozambique and Zimbabwe. M. Ferrao has made formal visits and briefed the coordinators for climate change national communications in Zimbabwe and Mozambique and hopes to do the same in Malawi and Zimbabwe very soon. The AIACC team is in the process of developing a climate change forum to engage the NC communities and regional organizations in Southern Africa in a discussion of key issues and development of adaptation strategies, including within the NAPA framework.

The project is in the process of forming an advisory group to guide the integrated modeling that they are developing. Members from the national communications team from each of the countries that the project is working in will be included in the advisory group. This will ensure maximum input from the NC teams into their activities.

Project: AF42
PI: P. Dube
Countries: Botswana
Focus: Food security, water, land use vulnerabilities and adaptation

Past Involvement with National Communications

The project PI, P. Dube, initiated the formation of the Botswana Global Change Committee (BGCC) at the University of Botswana in 1993 and was its secretary from 1993 to 1994. Dept of Meteorological Services has been a member of the BGCC since 1993. The primary role of BGCC is to initiate climate change related research in the country to generate locally relevant information required by NCCC.

The AF42 PI was the Botswanan expert advisor at the 1st SADC meeting on Climate Change: Preparing for UNFCCC COP6 - "Adverse effects of climate change and adaptation needs in Southern Africa", October 2000, Gaborone.

Anticipated Participation in Second National Communication

P. Dube has been nominated to represent the University of Botswana in the Botswana National Committee on Climate Change (NCCC) as of October 2002. One of the terms of reference of the NCCC is "oversee the preparations of the National Communication to the climate change secretariat and the conference of the parties and ensuring the formulation of appropriate national responses to climate change issues."

P. Dube is the current chairperson of BGCC. AF42 is considered to be one of the research projects carried out under BGCC in the University. P. Dube is also a member of the National Conservation Strategy Board where the implication of key issues raised by the National Communication Committee on Government programs are discussed and decisions on how to proceed are taken.

With these strong connections between the AIACC AF42 project and bodies responsible for Botswana's 2nd National Communication, it is expected that AF42 will make important contributions to the communication.

Interactions with Persons Responsible for National Communications

P. Dube communicated the AIACC/ AF42 project at the First Meeting of the GEF/SGP Climate Change Networking Group linked to activities of the NCCC in September 2001. Further, Dr E. Toteng, the AF42 team member focusing on vulnerability and adaptation issues sits in the GEF/SGP Committee.

Project: AF47
PI: O. Davidson
Countries: South Africa, The Gambia
Focus: Benefit-Cost analysis of adaptation responses

Past Involvement with National Communications

The GCRU of the Department of Water Resources in The Gambia, is responsible for coordinating AIACC AF47 activities in The Gambia and is also the focal climate change secretariat. The staff of the GCRU participated in the sectoral studies for the First National Communication and are also participating in the A47 Project. B. Jallow, the Coordinator of the National Communications Project is also the National Coordinator in The Gambia for the AIACC A47 project.

Anticipated Participation in Second National Communication

The GCRU will continue to be the focal point for climate change and B. Jallow will continue to be the Coordinator of the National Communications Project. Hence, there is a close connection between the project and Gambia's preparations for the 2nd national communication.

Members of the AIACC AF47 team in South Africa still need to make initial contacts with appropriate persons in South Africa to assure that the project will contribute to South Africa's 2nd national communication.

A major output of the project is expected to be a framework and for the assessment of benefits and costs of adaptations to climate change and demonstration of the approach. This will have potential utility for preparation of national communications in countries other than The Gambia and South Africa. Efforts will be made to disseminate information about the approach and its applications to appropriate persons so that others might adopt and replicate it.

Interactions with Persons Responsible for National Communications

AIACC AF47 team members will continue to interact with other GCRU staff to assure that the project will serve needs of the national communication in the Gambia. Team members in South Africa have been encouraged by the AIACC Secretariat to quickly establish ties to South Africa's national communication.

Project: AF90
PI: A. Abou-Hadid
Countries: Egypt, Tunisia, Morocco
Focus: Food production, water needs and adaptation to climate change

Past Involvement with National Communications

Dr. Ayman Abou-Hadid, PI for AIACC AF91, and Dr. Mahmoud Medany, a member of the AF91 research team, were members in the steering committee of the Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency (EEAA), and assisted with the agriculture section of the first national communication of Egypt. Prof. Abou-Hadid is the CEO of Egyptian Environ. Affairs Agency (EEAA), and Dr. Medany is the Minister's Bureau Manager, Ministry of State for Environmental Affairs.

Anticipated Participation in Second National Communication

Dr. Abou-Hadid and Dr. Medany expect to participate in the second national communication of Egypt.

Interactions with Persons Responsible for National Communications

Dr. Abou-Hadid met with many committees and persons responsible for national communications about AIACC project AF91. These include H.E. Dr. Mamdouh Riad, Minister of Ministry of State for Environmental Affairs, Dr. Abdel Azieem El-Hamady, Dean of Environmental Research and Studies Institute, Ain-Shams University and Dr. Mohamed Eissa, General Manager of Information Dept., Egyptian Meteorology Authority (EMA). Also Dr. Abou-Hadid is the General Manager of Arid Land Agricultural Research Unit (ALARU).

Through these interactions, input from a broad range of persons participating in Egypt's national communication will be obtained. These contacts, and dissemination of the results of the research, will help to assure that AF91 outputs will be incorporated into the national communication of Egypt.

Note: information about links with national communication preparations in Tunisia and Morocco not yet provided to the AIACC Secretariat.

AIACC Links to UNFCCC National Communications

Project: AF91
PI: S. Wandiga
Countries: Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania
Focus: Human health, climate change, and adaptive responses

Past Involvement with National Communications

S. Wandiga, the PI for the AIACC project AF91, participated in the preparation of the first Kenya National Communication.

Anticipated Participation in Second National Communication

S. Wandiga is assisting with the second national communication as a reviewer for sections dealing with chemistry.

Interactions with Persons Responsible for National Communications

S. Wandiga has met the contact person for UNFCCC for Kenya and she will participate in the project workshops. A letter of approval for the project has been obtained from the Ministry in Kenya. The Tanzanian principal researcher has also communicated with their national contact person to share information about planned activities.

The contact persons for each country will be kept fully informed of and involved in the project activities. They will have input to the project through participation in project workshops.

Project: AF92
PI: A. Adepetu
Countries: Nigeria and Mali
Focus: Vulnerability of rural populations to drought and climate change

Past Involvement with National Communications

One member of AIACC team in Mali, Dr. Mamadou Doumbia, assisted with the first national communication of Mali. He chaired the session of the national workshop on vulnerability and adaptation of agriculture to climate change. Also, Dr. Mama Konaté of Meteo in Mali is the chairman of Least Developing Countries (LDC).

Anticipated Participation in Second National Communication

It is expected that interactions with the persons responsible for national communications in Nigeria and Mali will result in the participation of some AF92 team members in preparation of the next communications and use of results of AF92 research.

Interactions with Persons Responsible for National Communications

The AIACC AF92 project team in Nigeria has established contact with the GEF focal point in Nigeria and briefed him on the project. A. Berthe, the coordinator of the AIACC team in Mali, met with members from both the Mali focal point of UNFCCC (Brehima Diarra, Meteo) and the secretariat permanent for environmental affairs in Mali (Djiriba Traoré, STP/CGQE) to discuss about a future program of communication for AIACC project. Follow-up meetings are planned with B. Diarra and D. Traoré, as well as with Abdoulaye Bagayoko of CNRST, who has been coordinating the national communication, to discuss in more detail the sharing of information and possible contributions of AF92 to the national communication of Mali. Both the STP/CGQE and the focal point for climate change think the project can also contribute to the National Action Plan for Adaptation (NAPA).

Persons participating in the preparation of the national communications of Nigeria and Mali will be invited to project review meetings and provided copies of all semi-annual progress reports. Their input to refinement of project objectives and implementation will be encouraged.

Project: AS06
PI: P. Batima
Countries: Mongolia
Focus: Vulnerability and adaptation of rangelands and pastoralists

Past Involvement with National Communications

Dr. Dagvadorj, a general consultant to AIACC Project AS06, is the Mongolian National focal point for UNFCCC. Dr. Dagvadorj and Dr Batima, the project PI, were responsible for coordination as well as policy and strategy in preparation of the Mongolia Initial National Communication. Other members of the AS06 project team (Natsagdorj, Tuvaansuren, Bolortsetseg) also participated as experts in adaptation study team for the national communication.

Anticipated Participation in Second National Communication

Several members of the AS06 team are expected to participate in the second national communication.

Interactions with Persons Responsible for National Communications

The Working Group for the Initial National Communication played a major role in preparing the proposal to AIACC for the AS06 project. The proposal was written so as to support the adaptation portion of the second national communication in particular. The Working Group is likely to be responsible for the second national communication and several members are also members of the AS06 project team. This assures that the activities of AS06 will be closely integrated with the second national communication.

Project: AS12
PI: J. Ratnasiri
Countries: Sri Lanka
Focus: Vulnerability and adaptation of coconut and tea plantation agriculture

Past Involvement with National Communications

J. Ratnasiri, PI of the AIACC AS12 project, while he was holding the position of Chief Technical Adviser in the Ministry of Environment in Sri Lanka (1993-99), was directly involved in the preparation of the 1st NC of Sri Lanka. He prepared the proposal to obtain funding from GEF under Enabling Activities to prepare the 1st NC including the GHG inventory, and was a member of the Steering Committee on the 1st NC. He also organized several workshops to apprise public officers on CC issues and the need for the 1st NC. In addition, Dr Ratnasiri was a member of the UNFCCC mission that evaluated the 1st NC of New Zealand.

Anticipated Participation in Second National Communication

Dr Ratnasiri serves as a Consultant to prepare a proposal to establish a Climate Change Secretariat, which is expected to undertake the preparation of 2nd NC. He is also a member of the Steering Committee of the Ministry for the implementation of the 2nd phase of GEF Enabling Activity programme, which has undertaken CC studies to include in the 2nd NC. These responsibilities of the PI, and planned activities to interact with the Ministry of Environment with regard to AS12, will help the project to contribute to the NC.

The Ministry of Environment expects to rely upon the outputs of the AIACC AS12 project for the preparation of sections of the national communication that are to deal with vulnerability and adaptation in the coconut and tea sectors. In consequence, these sectors do not need to draw on the 2nd phase of GEF Enabling Activity funding for Sri Lanka and that funding is being allocated to other sectors by the Ministry.

Interactions with Persons Responsible for National Communications

The proposal to AIACC for AS12 was submitted with the endorsement of the Ministry of Environment. The Director responsible for the NC participated in the Inception Workshop organized by the project PI for stakeholders of the AIACC project. The PI continues to be in regular contact with the Ministry. The progress reports of the AIACC project are also copied to them.

Several workshops will be held during the project. Stakeholders, including others participating in Sri Lanka's national communication, will be invited to get their inputs. One workshop with stakeholder participation was held in April 2002. A second is planned in December 2002 that will include an inauguration session to which stakeholders from the government (including Environment Ministry), industry and trade will be invited. Additional workshops will be held in 2003 and 2004.

Project: AS21
PI: R. Lasco
Countries: Philippines, Indonesia,
Focus: Water, land use/cover, agriculture vulnerability and adaptation

Past Involvement with National Communications

In the Philippines, two researchers from the AIACC AS21 group had a role in the first national communication; Dr. Rex Victor O. Cruz participated in the assessment of the impact of climate change to forest ecosystems while Dr. Rodel D. Lasco provided activity data for the greenhouse gas inventory of the LUCF sector.

In Indonesia, Dr. Rizaldi Boer of the AIACC AS21 group contributed to the preparation of 1st National Communication, in particular to the preparation of GHG inventory for non-energy sector and V&A Assessment for Agriculture and Forestry.

Anticipated Participation in Second National Communication

Dr. Boer has been contacted by the National Focal Point for CC to provide inputs for the preparation of the proposal for 2nd National Communication of Indonesia and it is very likely that he will also be involved in the preparation of the communication.

Interactions with Persons Responsible for National Communications

AS21 recently had a series of meetings in the Philippines to inform the various sectors of the climate change community here of our AIACC work. Among the participants are government officials who will likely be involved in the 2NC.

The project will sponsor future meetings and a science-policy workshop to seek input and to communicate the results of the study. These meetings and workshops will include National Focal Points and others taking part in the national communications of the Philippines and Indonesia.

Project: AS25
PI: Y. Yin
Countries: China
Focus: Integrated assessment of climate change vulnerability and adaptation in Western China

Note: Final approval and award of AIACC funding to AS25 is pending and awaits endorsement by the GEF Focal Point of China. The PI has undertaken extensive discussions with the Chinese GEF Office, the National Climate Change Coordination Committee (NCCCC) and representatives of various ministries to seek the endorsement. A decision by the Chinese GEF Office is expected soon.

Past Involvement with National Communications

China has not submitted its first National Communication to the UNFCCC; it is expected to submit the communication in February 2004. Discussions between the project PI and Chinese GEF Office have resulted in three components being added to the project activities that will facilitate integration of AS25 with the Chinese National Communication: 1) Establishment of a Steering Committee (SC), with the overall mandate of ensuring country ownership of the project. 2) Establishment of a Technical Committee (TC) that is responsible for technical issues such as scenario design, database, choice of analysis method, etc and maintaining close coordination with other ongoing projects on climate change in China, in particular, the Targeted Research Related to Climate Change and National Communications. 3) Ensuring participation of stakeholders at national, regional and local levels in different stages of the project. Members of the SC and TC committees are all key people responsible for China's NC.

Anticipated Participation in Second National Communication

See above.

Interactions with Persons Responsible for National Communications

The Technical and Steering Committees referenced above will meet periodically with members of the AS25 team to be informed of project activities and to provide review, input and guidance on the research and capacity building activities and promote cooperation among agencies and researchers so as to facilitate integration of AS25 work with the National Communication.

Project: LA06
PI: W. Fernandez
Countries: Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama
Focus: Water resources, extreme events and adaptation

Past Involvement with National Communications

Several institutions that were responsible for or participated in the first National Communications of the countries of Central America are participants in the AIACC LA06 project. These include, among others:

- INSIVUMEH, Guatemala
- National Hydro-Meteorological Service, Belize
- Minister of Environment, Honduras
- Hydrological Department, Honduras
- National Meteorological Service, Honduras
- National Service for Territorial Studies, El Salvador
- INETER, Nicaragua
- National Meteorological Institute, Costa Rica
- Ministry of Environment and Energy, Costa Rica
- Ministry of Environment, Panama

Anticipated Participation in Second National Communication

Most of these institutions will be involved in their country's second national communication as well.

Interactions with Persons Responsible for National Communications

All documents for AIACC LA06 were distributed to the UNFCCC national focal points of the seven countries of Central America in December 2001. A first meeting with the focal points to discuss coordinated activities was held in the first quarter of 2002. At that meeting it was agreed that the AIACC LA06 project should coordinate activities with the UNDP Adaptation project in Central America and that LA06 should contribute to the national communications of countries in the region. This coordination and integration of LA06 activities will be facilitated by the overlap of personnel between the LA06 project team and the various institutions that will participate in national communications.

Project: LA26
PI: V. Barros
Countries: Argentina, Uruguay
Focus: Coastal vulnerability and adaptation to sea level rise and storm surge

Past Involvement with National Communications

V. Barros, PI for AIACC LA26 project, was the national director of the PNUD Project funded by GEF as an enabling activity to produce the first national communication from Argentina to the UNFCCC and wrote the draft of the communication. He also coordinated a revision to the first national communication that was presented in 1999.

W. Vargas, a member of the LA26 team, was one of the two coordinators of the project. The first national communication of Uruguay was evaluated by V. Barros on behalf of PNUD.

Anticipated Participation in Second National Communication

Proposals to contribute to various portions of the second national communication will be invited by Argentina and groups will be selected based upon qualifications. The LA26 group intends to submit a proposal for participation related to their project.

Interactions with Persons Responsible for National Communications

It is not yet clear who will be responsible for the 2nd national communication in Argentina. Both the Foreign Ministry and Secretary of Environment have participated in initial discussions. A steering committee for the national communication is expected to be formed. Members of the project team have informed both the Foreign Ministry and Environment Secretary about the project. This resulted in Dr Estrada Oyuela recommending that plans for the 2nd national communication include part of the objectives of LA26. When a steering committee is established, members of the LA26 project expect to participate in their meetings and will share information about the project with them and seek their input.

Presentations will be made during the LA26 project to other researchers and stakeholders and reports made public to obtain input and disseminate information about the project activities and findings.

Project: LA 27
PI: A. Gimenez
Countries: Argentina, Uruguay, and Brazil
Focus: Vulnerability of mixed grain/livestock agriculture and adaptations

Note: The original proposal for this project was limited to Argentina and Uruguay. The PI was invited by AIACC to submit a proposal to extend the project to include Brazil and AIACC has recently approved that proposal. At this time, the AIACC Secretariat has not received information about links between the project and Brazil's national communication.

Past Involvement with National Communications

In Argentina, four people of the AIACC LA27 project team participated in the first national communication (Graciela Magrin, María I. Travasso, Gabriel Rodriguez and Osvaldo Canziani). Graciela Magrin coordinated the Agricultural Vulnerability sector where participated Maria I. Travasso and Gabriel Rodriguez. Osvaldo Canziani coordinated the Oasis Vulnerability sector.

Walter E. Baethgen, a participant in the LA27 project, was in charge of developing the National Greenhouse Gas Inventory for the Agriculture and the Land Use Change and Forestry sectors for the Uruguay National Communication.

Anticipated Participation in Second National Communication

Graciela Magrin and María I. Travasso participated in the proposal preparation concerning the agricultural sector for the 2nd national communication of Argentina. Consequently it is expected that they will participate in the preparation of the communication. It is also expected that Walter Baethgen will participate in the 2nd national communication of Uruguay. Also, as the investigators for the AIACC LA27 project are among the lead researchers on agriculture and climate change in the region, several others are likely to also assist with the national communications of these countries.

Interactions with Persons Responsible for National Communications

The project team is in close contact with the Ministry for the Environment of Uruguay, and with DINAMA in particular, which is GEF focal point in Uruguay. In Argentina, Graciela Magrin and Osvaldo Canziani are in close contact with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Embajador Estrada Oyuela) and with GEF focal points in Argentina.

The AIACC LA27 project members plan to meet frequently with other experts and persons responsible for national communications in Argentina and Uruguay. These meetings will facilitate sharing of information, obtain input to the project, and help the project to contribute to national communications.

Project: LA29
PI: C. Gay
Countries: Mexico, Argentina
Focus: Farm level vulnerability and adaptation

Past Involvement with National Communications

The first national communication of Mexico, delivered at 1997, Kyoto meeting, was mainly based on the results of the County Study: Mexico, which was directed by Carlos Gay, the PI of AIACC LA29 project. Carlos Gay and Cecilia Conde participated in the design of the climate change scenarios team, and Cecilia Conde was also co-responsible of the studies on climate change impacts in agriculture

Anticipated Participation in Second National Communication

Last year, Mexico delivered a second national communication, but it is intended to be updated with more recent studies related to V&A assessments; particularly with the methods and results of the GEF – UNDP project "Capacity Building for Stage II Adaptation to Climate Change in Central America, Mexico and Cuba (PIMS 2220)" and of our AIACC project. For that purpose, the Mexican members of the LA29 team have been invited by INE (National Institute of Ecology, directly responsible of the national communications) to participate in the working meetings and team of the project "Capacity Building Stage II."

Carlos Gay is now advisor to the minister of environment (SEMARNAT) on climate change issues. It is likely then that he will be involved in the "next" national communication.

Members of the team are also involved in the development of the APF Adaptation Policy Framework, as authors of a technical paper (TP2, Cecilia Conde) or reviewers of other technical papers (Carlos Gay, Hallie Eakin). These activities will potential contribute to the national communications of several countries.

Interactions with Persons Responsible for National Communications

A representative of the climate change office in INE (A.Fernandez) was invited to discuss with the conclusions the last day of the first AIACC bi-national workshop of the LA29 project (Mexico, 17 -21 May, 2002). Members of the LA29 team have participated in other meetings with INE (the last on Nov. 27) for the design of the project "Capacity Building Stage II." They are also collaborating with INE on a book related to V&A to climate change, which will be published in 2003. There will be regular meetings with persons responsible for Mexico's national communication to keep them informed and obtain their feedback.

Team members in Argentina will also establish contacts with appropriate persons to establish links with their national communication.

Project: LA32
PI: G. Nagy
Countries: Uruguay, Argentina
Focus: Vulnerability of estuary and human uses

Past Involvement with National Communications

Mario Bidegain participated in hydrological scenarios. Uruguayan National Communications.

Anticipated Participation in Second National Communication

It is expected that Mario Bidegain and Mario Caffera will be invited to participate in the Uruguayan 2nd national communication. Perhaps Gustavo J Nagy as well.

Interactions with Persons Responsible for National Communications

From the very beginning the team met with Luis Santos (Uruguayan Ministry of the Environment Climate Change Unit and GEF local point reference). The team has received (and are receiving) some information from them. Representatives of Climate Change Unit were invited to attend the subregional meeting held in Montevideo in September 2002. There will be future meetings to which they will be invited to obtain their input as the project progresses.

The LA32 team intends to send their results and also, we hope to have active participation in future Climate scenarios/modeling activities, as well as socioeconomic and environmental(aquatic) scenarios

Project: SIS06
PI: A. Chen and S. Rawlins
Countries: Jamaica, Barbados, Trinidad and Tobago, and St. Kitts
Focus: Human health, climate change and adaptation

Past Involvement with National Communications

Dr A. Amarakoon, a member of the AIACC SIS06 team, represented the project PI Dr. A. Chen on the committee which drafted the first National Communication of Jamaica.

Anticipated Participation in Second National Communication

It is hoped that members of the SIS06 team will be invited to participate in preparation of the second national communications for the countries covered by the project.

Interactions with Persons Responsible for National Communications

Mr L. Brown of the National Meteorological Office of Jamaica has joined the SIS06 team to assist with development of climate change scenarios. The Met Office is responsible for Jamaica's national communication. Mr Brown's participation in SIS06 provides an effective means of communication and input between the project and those responsible for Jamaica's national communication. The project team will be meeting bi-weekly in Jamaica and a member of the committee for the national communication will be invited to future meetings.

At the outset of the project the project team made contacts with the ministries of health in the 21 member countries of the Caribbean community to inform them about the project and to solicit their help to obtain epidemiological and vector data. In the four pilot countries that are the main focus of the project, S. Rawlins has made presentations to the National Epidemiologists about the project and to seek collaboration. These contacts will enable the public health communities of the region to have input to the project. This will result in the project having improved utility to practitioners and will facilitate integration of the work into the national communications of countries in the region.

Project: SIS09
PI: K. Koshy
Countries: Fiji and Cook Islands
Focus: Integrated assessment of coastal vulnerabilities and adaptations

Past Involvement with National Communications

All the three project partners (USP, SPREP and IGCI) had a direct role in the Pacific Islands Climate Change Assistance Program (PICCAP) that was coordinated by a member of the SIS09 project team, W. King. The first national communications of islands in the Pacific were prepared under PICCAP. The project PI, K. Koshy, was a member of the Fiji country team that prepared Fiji's national communication.

Anticipated Participation in Second National Communication

Preparation of second national communications have not yet begun. It is expected that members of the SIS09 team will play roles in their preparation and that the results of the project will contribute to the communications.

Interactions with Persons Responsible for National Communications

PICCAP coordinators in Fiji and Cook Islands participated in early discussions about the project that lead to endorsement of the project by these countries. The PICCAP coordinators will continue to be integral contributors to the project.

Project: SIS90
PI: R. Payet
Countries: Seychelles, Comoros
Focus: Impacts of climate change on tourism and the coastal/marine environment and adaptation strategies

Past Involvement with National Communications

Rolph Payet, PI for the AIACC SIS90 project, was the overall editor for the vulnerability assessment for the First National Communication of the Seychelles and Robert Lajoie & Wills Agricole contributed to sections on climate variability and change. Yousouf Hamadi is the overall coordinator for the First National Communication of the Comoros. Mohamed El Habib will contribute to section on coastal zones vulnerability and Said Ahmed Othman to section on water. Comoros has yet to finalize and submit their first national communication.

Anticipated Participation in Second National Communication

It is highly likely that these same persons will participate in the preparation of the second national communications of their respective countries.

Interactions with Persons Responsible for National Communications

The National Climate Change Committee of the Seychelles is mandated by Government to oversee the preparation and implementation of UNFCCC decisions and the National Communications process. Rolph Payet is chairman of the National Climate Change Committee in the Seychelles, which assures a close integration of the AIACC SIS90 project and preparation of the Seychelles' national communication. The committee had input to the original proposal and will continue to have input through consultations, peer review of outputs of the project, and participation in capacity building activities of the project. The project is a standing discussion item on the agenda of the committee.

Details of interactions between the project and those responsible for the second national communication of Comoros have not been submitted to the AIACC Secretariat. However, Yousouf Hamadi, who coordinates SIS90 activities in the Comoros, will continue to have a central role in the national communication of Comoros.