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SIDE EVENT

IDDRI



MINISTÈRE DE L'ENSEIGNEMENT SUPÉRIEUR
DE LA RECHERCHE ET DE L'INNOVATION

Research and innovation for development and climate finance

Concept note, key messages and provisional agenda

High level seminar, organised by IDDRI under the auspices of the French minister for Higher education, Research and Innovation, December 11th 2017, 9am – 1pm, Paris.

In the framework of the 12.12 One Planet Summit, in partnership with FERDI, CIRAD and IRD.

1. Context

Urgent action is needed to mobilise private and public funding towards low carbon and resilient development investments. The vulnerability of many countries to climate change impacts, both to increased frequency and magnitude of extreme events as well as to slow onset changes, poses major challenges to development. The capacity to identify or design developments investment projects adapted to climate change as well as consistent with mitigation objectives, and to channel public or private funding towards them, is still low compared to the urgency to act.

2. Assessment of the role of cooperation in research, innovation and capacity building to mobilise funding for climate and development

Cooperation in research and innovation for development, including in capacity building, plays a key role in the implementation of the Paris Agreement. Research, innovation and capacity building for development play an indispensable complementary role to the mobilisation of public and private investments for the necessary transition in all countries, for adaptation as much as for mitigation: they contribute both to the funding supply side (channelling funding to the investment needs, building an enabling environment) and to the funding demand side (formation and identification of bankable projects). These various roles are defined more precisely hereafter.

- Building and sustaining national innovation systems in an international cooperation framework enables them to produce **concrete solutions and projects** that can be funded and put at the heart of transformation to low carbon and resilient development. Technological innovation as well as other forms of innovation are at stake (innovations in uses, social, organisational innovation, new business models, innovative financial instruments...) requiring a greater attention to innovative forms of cooperation in research and innovation for development, such as open science and co-creation. Cooperation in innovation enables the **availability of shared knowledge** as a global common good, particularly in technologies. The capacity to **upscale existing innovations** is particularly critical : there are numerous local scale solutions for adaptation and mitigation in pilot cases, for which the blocking factor lies in the possibility to adapt them to other contexts and upscaled.
- Building and sustaining national and regional research and innovation systems contribute to create an **enabling national and regional environment**, through capacity building, which is critical to **build trust and reduce risks for investors** : the capacity to assess risks and returns on investments in the specific national circumstances of a country, relying on the existence of long term series of data (on climate, as well as on socioeconomic changes) and thus on data infrastructures (both spatial and in situ), the existence of national expertise, and its contribution to risk assessments as well as to the definition of national and local public policies, all contribute to risk reduction.
- National and regional research and innovation systems, in the framework of international cooperation, can contribute to produce consistent **mid- and long term visions** of the transformation of regional or national economies or specific economic sectors (energy, agriculture, for instance), ensuring the coherence between ambition for adaptation and mitigation, as well as technical and economic feasibility; feeding national or regional policy dialogues with such **transformation pathways** is critical for the convergence and alignment of the expectations of public and private **investors, innovators, national or local public authorities, stakeholders** and **civil society** on a long term horizon. Thus, they also contribute to reduce risks.
- While crucial for the transformation to low carbon societies, this is also particularly important for **adaptation**, as research is critical to identify both increased climate variability and slow onset changes. Research can contribute to the design of private and public funding strategies addressing the needs for mitigation and for adaptation, taking into account the **diverse forms of vulnerability** (economic, climate-related, political) and how they interplay specifically in each national context.
- Cooperation in research, innovation and capacity building contributes to developing methodologies to **assess the performance** for sustainable development of the proposed solutions and projects, the potential **trade-offs or synergies** between mitigation, adaptation, and other social, economic and environmental performances as set out in the SDG framework.
- Thus, they strengthen the feedback from experience for global scale **collective learning** and ensure **relevant exchanges between countries**, at regional or international scale.

- Cooperation in research, innovation and capacity building enables to rely on **national research systems** to account for the **specificity of national circumstances** and on **international expert communities and databases** (as well as institutionalised science policy interfaces with the example of the IPCC, IPBES or the High Level Panel of Experts on Food security and nutrition) so that **global consistency and global ambition** for mitigation, adaptation, and sustainable development, can be ensured.
- The critical research activities and programmes needed to support public and private climate funding strategies, as presented before, rely on the existence of research institutions as well as on sets of robust and comparable data collected over the long term, on changes in climate, ecosystems, as well as in economic and social variables. In this regard, the role of **data infrastructure** is essential and needs adequate support at national as well as international scale.

This first assessment of potential and necessary roles of cooperation in research, innovation and capacity building is based on existing examples developed by participating experts and institutions. The high level workshop will enable to consolidate this assessment.

3. Key messages

Based on the assessment of potential and necessary roles for research, innovation and capacity building to design public and private funding strategies for climate and development, the participants of the high level workshop could conclude on a series of key messages, as proposed below :

- A. The complementarity and continuity between climate and development finance and the funding of research and innovation is essential to design private and public funding strategies for the implementation of the Paris Agreement, and to build trust and reduce risks for investors, which is critical for adaptation as well as for mitigation.
- B. Funding research and innovation for development has direct links with capacity building, which is critical to ensure an enabling environment in specific national circumstances.
- C. Building and sustaining national and regional research, innovation and capacity building systems in the framework of international cooperation plays a critical role for the mobilisation of private and public finance for low carbon and resilient development pathways. Supporting data infrastructures is a critical condition to perform the necessary research and innovation programs.
- D. Innovative forms of cooperation in research and innovation for development, with high impact on climate action, innovative funding instruments and processes to boost and upscale them are currently developed, as will be illustrated during the high level workshop.

Comments by participants on this first assessment and the proposed key messages are welcome ahead of the workshop and can be sent to : sebastien.treyer@iddri.org , so that they can be integrated into a new version of this note.

4. Proposed agenda for the workshop – 8h30 – 13h00

The workshop will be divided in two parts :

- A sequence of three working session on three themes, to exchange on lessons learnt and relevant examples, to consolidate the key messages
- A ministerial level conclusive sequence, opened to the press, that will focus on the key messages and on the innovative partnerships, instruments and processes that need to be developed.

8h30 – 9h00 – Welcome coffee

9h00 – 9h15 – **Welcome and opening**

- Frédérique Vidal, French Minister for Higher Education, Research and Innovation
- Teresa Ribera, Director, IDDRI

9h15 – 9h30 – **Round of introduction** of participants to the workshop

Working sessions

9h30 – 10h15 - **Building and sustaining innovation ecosystems in cooperation** : their role for the constitution of a pipe of low carbon and resilient projects for the transition

- Short presentation of examples of innovative cooperation mechanisms : 3 x 5'
- First reactions by two discussants : 2 x 5'
- General discussion and consolidation of a key message on cooperation for innovation : 20'

10h15 – 11h00 – **National visions and pathways to low carbon and resilient development, enabling environment and policies** : the role of research, innovation and capacity building to ensure converging expectations and risk reduction

- Short presentation of examples of innovative cooperation mechanisms : 3 x 5'
- First reactions by three discussants : 3 x 5'
- General discussion and consolidation of a key message on national enabling conditions : 15'

11h00 – 11h15 – Coffee break

11h15 – 12h00 – **Long term visions and learning process for regions and territories** : the role of research, innovation and capacity building to build visions, identify relevant projects, and contribute to the assessment of their sustainability

- Short presentations of examples of innovative partnerships : 2 x 5'
- First reactions by three discussants : 3 x 5'
- General discussion and consolidation of a key message on regional scale partnerships between research and development : 20'

Conclusive session, opened to the press

12h00 – 13h00 – **Synthesis of key messages** and focus on **innovative partnerships, funding instruments and processes** to boost and upscale the impact of research, innovation and capacity building for climate and development

- Panel facilitated by Teresa Ribera, Director, IDDRI

Proposed participants to the panel (to be confirmed):

- o Mme Frédérique Vidal, Minister for Higher Education, Research and Innovation, France
 - o M. Ibrahim Assane Mayaki, Secrétaire exécutif du NEPAD, Union africaine
 - o *Mr Mary Teuw Niane, Minister for Higher Education, Research and Innovation, Senegal (tbc)*
 - o Mr Alkassoum Maiga, Minister for Higher Education, Research and Innovation, Burkina Faso
 - o Mme Ramata Bakayoko-Ly, Minister for Higher Education, Research and Innovation, Côte d'Ivoire
 - o Lord Nicholas Stern, Professor and Director, Grantham Institute, London School of Economics
 - o Mr Yahouza Sadissou, Minister for Higher Education, Research and Innovation, Niger
 - o *Mr Stefano Manservigi, Director General, DG Development and Cooperation, European Commission (tbc)*
 - o *Mme Sarah Mbi Enow ANYANG AGBOR, African Union Commissioner for Human resources, Sciences and Technologies (tbc)*
 - o *Mr Gerd Müller, German minister for Development (tbc)*
- Discussion with participants to the conclusive session

13h00 – 14h00 - Lunch

5. Logistics

English / French simultaneous translation will be available. Documents will be provided in French and in English.

The workshop will take place at the French Ministry for Higher Education, Research and Innovation (ministère de l'Enseignement supérieur, de la Recherche et de l'Innovation), in room **Hubert Curien**.

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