

Regional Center for  
Management and  
Coordination of  
Water Resources in  
Central Africa  
(CRGRE-AC)

**Synergies with regional organizations'  
strategies and processes.**



**POLICIES AND MEASURES ON WATER, CLIMATE  
AND TRANSBOUNDARY COOPERATION IN  
AFRICA**

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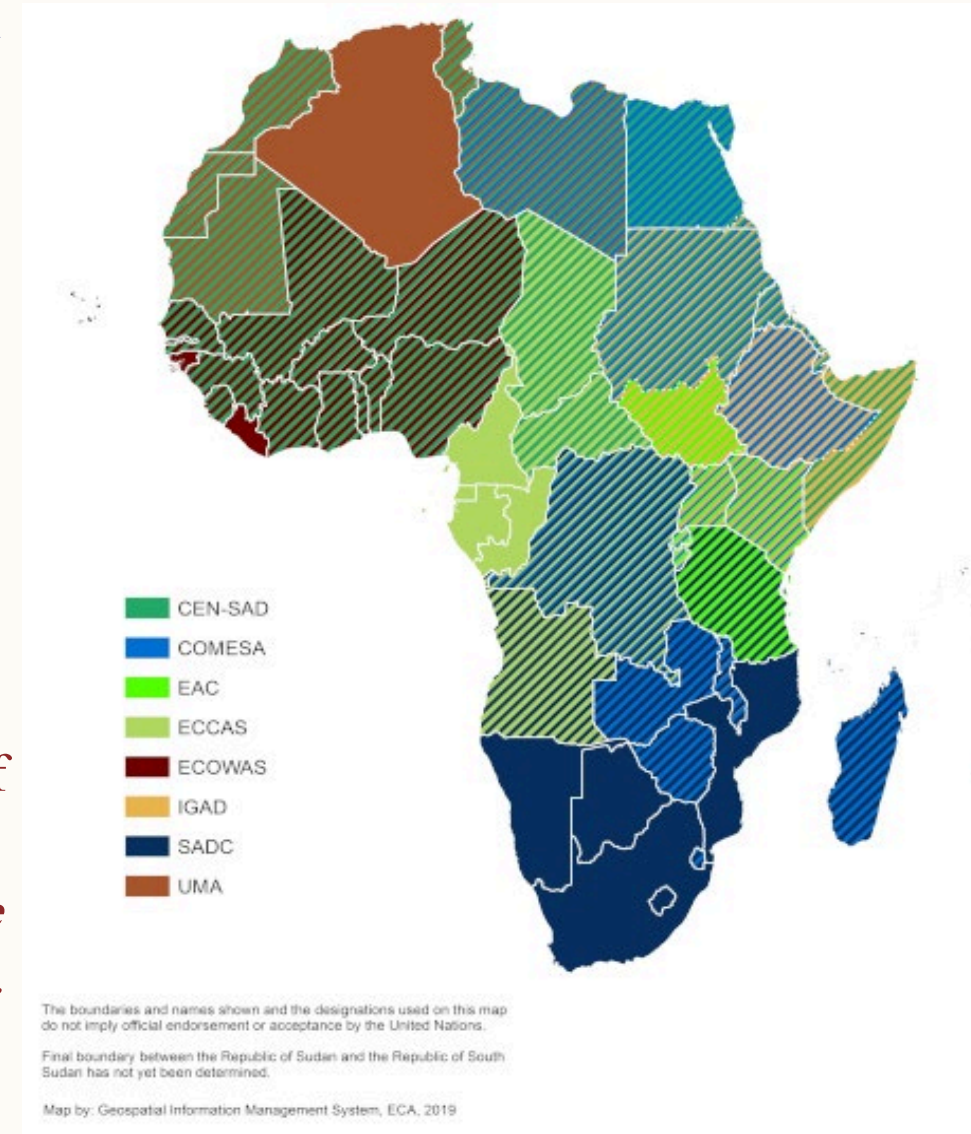
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# Introduction

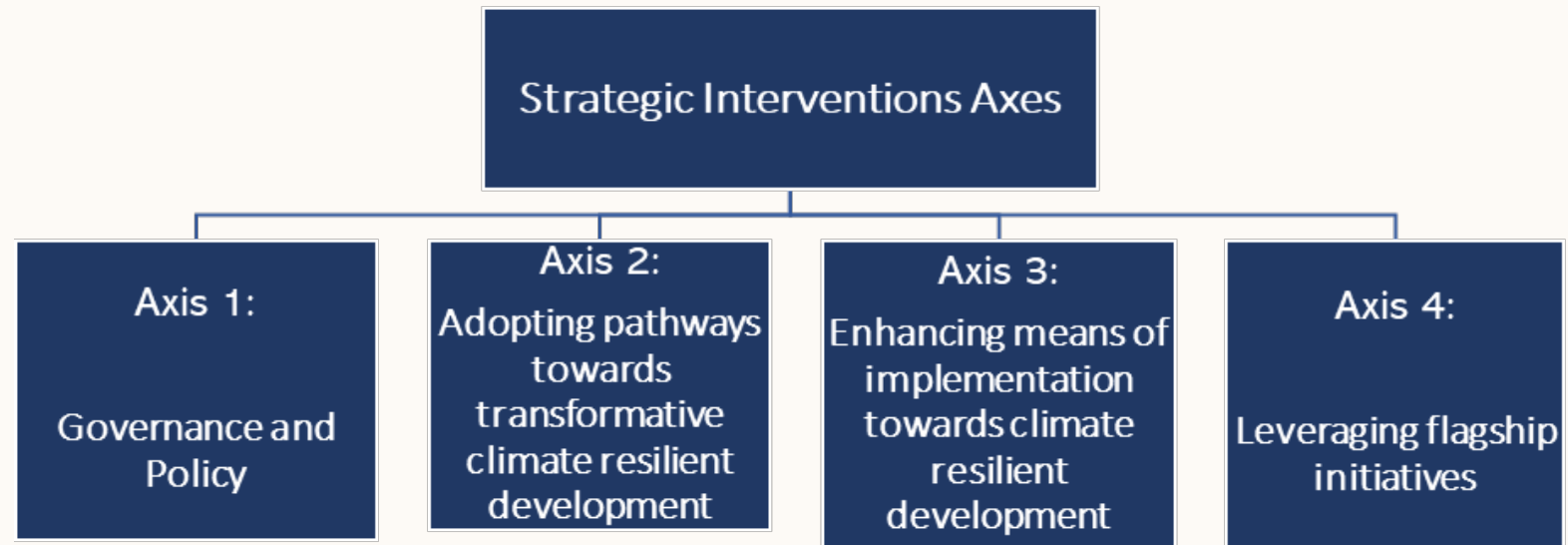
Africa's current integration landscape contains an array of regional economic communities, including eight recognized as the building blocks of the African Union, namely:

- Arab Maghreb Union (AMU)
  - The Community of Sahel-Saharan States (CEN-SAD)
  - Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA)
  - East African Community (EAC)
  - Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS)
  - Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)
  - Intergovernmental Authority for Development (IGAD)
  - Southern Africa Development Community (SADC)
- ECCAS is one of the eight RECs recognized as pillars of regional integration in Africa.
- *Each block puts in place policies and measures to enhance development and cooperation on water and climate.*



# Africa and Climate Action

The African Union (AU) has taken a proactive approach to tackle one of its people's most significant challenges: climate change. The AU adopted the African Union Climate Change and Resilient Development Strategy and Action Plan (2022-2032).



*The continent consists of diverse landscapes, ecosystems, and weather systems, which are impacted differently by climate change. Therefore, each member state will respond in a self-determined manner to the impacts they experience, based on their unique national circumstances and capacities to respond.*

# Climate related goals & priority areas of AU Agenda 2063

Aspiration 1



A Prosperous Africa, based on Inclusive Growth and Sustainable Development

Goal 7



Environmentally sustainable and climate resilient economies and communities

Priority Areas



- Sustainable natural resource management and Biodiversity conservation
- Sustainable consumption and production patterns
- Water security
- Climate resilience and natural disasters preparedness & prevention
- Renewable energy

# AU Agenda 2063 commitment on climate, environment and water<sup>6</sup>

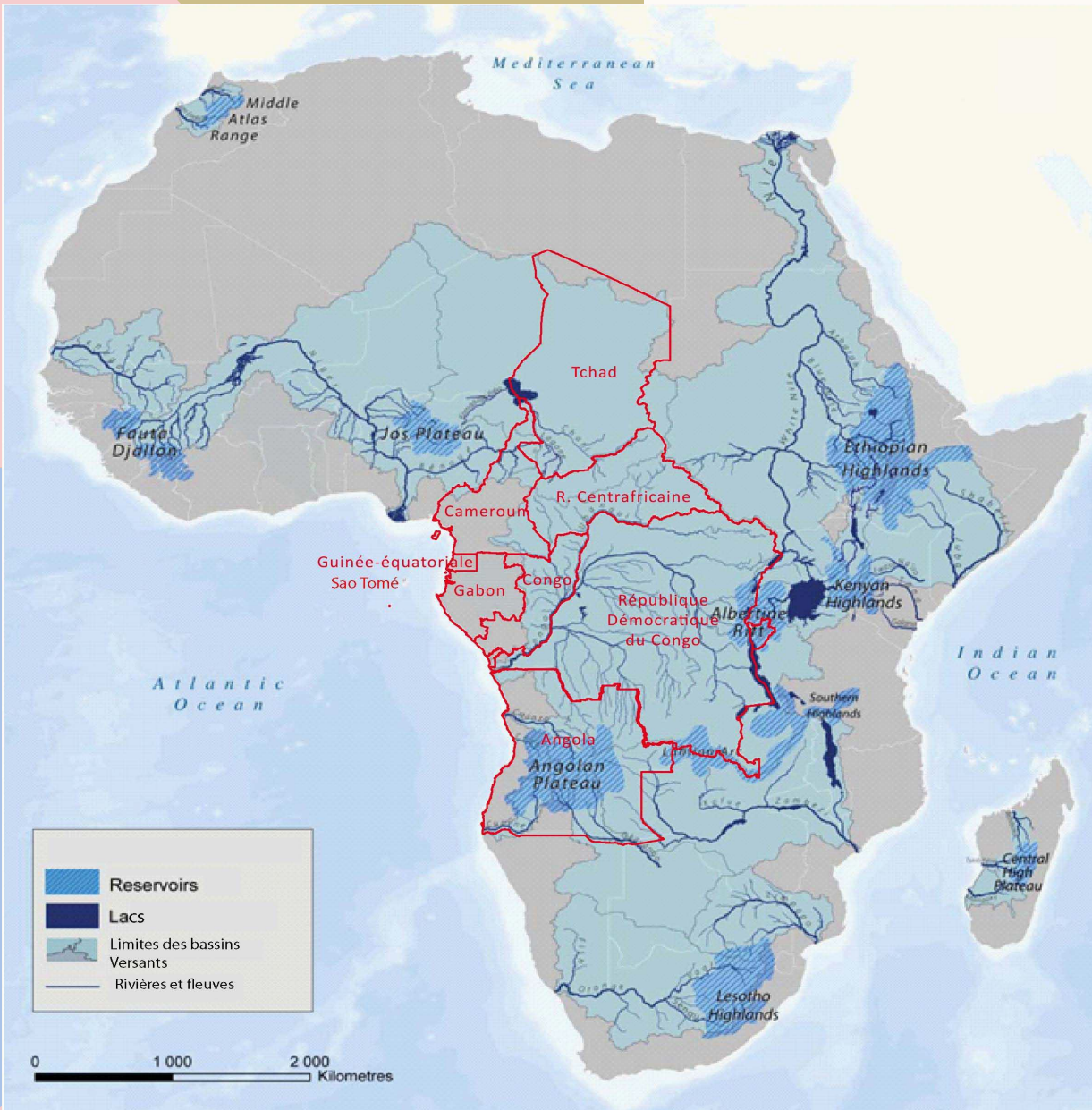
Africa committed to **Act with a sense of urgency on climate change and the environment, implementation of the Programme on Climate Action in Africa, including:**

- Programmes on climate change targeting women and youth;
- A climate resilient agricultural development programme such as the Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Programme (CAADP)
- Sustainable forest management programmes;
- National adaptation plans, systems and structures.

Under Aspiration 1, Africa aspire that by 2063: Africa shall have equitable and sustainable use and management of water resources for socio-economic development, regional cooperation and the environment.



# Water resources in Central Africa



- The wettest region of the continent with decreasing rainfall (average rainfall ranging from 0 to over 3000 mm).
- Features 3 climatic zones: equatorial, tropical and desert
- Home to the first hydrographic basin in Africa and the second in the world, following the Amazon.
- Boasts 16 large rivers and 5 shared lakes, with a dominance of the Congo River and Lake Chad basins.
- Possesses 17 aquifer systems that touch one or more ECCAS countries.
- Host to 15 classified wetlands (37.2 M Ha) under the Ramsar Convention. 18% of global wetlands.
- Despite high water availability per inhabitant, distribution remains poor.

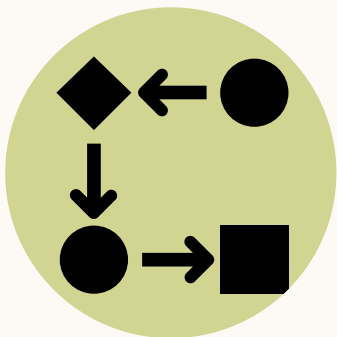
# Central Africa perspective on water



The provisions of the treaty establishing ECCAS and its various protocols highlight the importance of the development of the water sector in the Community's areas of intervention.



Development of Central Africa Regional Water Policy (2009) with 5 major strategic orientations.



Development of the Regional Action Plan for Integrated Water Resources Management (2014) to implement the regional water policy. Has multiple actions combined into 6 Programs.



# Central Africa perspective on climate risk

In 2012, the Central Africa adopted a regional strategy for risk prevention and disaster management and adaptation to climate change, with 5 strategic axis.

1. More decisive political commitment to disaster risk reduction
2. Reinforced risk management and effective early warning systems
3. Better management of knowledge and practices relating to disaster risk reduction
4. Reduction of underlying risk factors
5. Better preparedness for disaster response

*For each strategic axis, corresponding priority actions are indicated. An implementation, financing and monitoring framework has also been developed.*

*A Gender sensitive Plan of Action for implementing the strategy developed in 2020.*

*Priorities for action for a Gender-sensitive implementation of the Sendai Framework in Central Africa, elaborated as part of the Plan of action.*

# Priority actions on water, climate & cooperation

The ECCAS Commission through the Department in charge of Environment, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Rural Development and the CRGRE-AC implement a number of activities in line with sustainable water resources management, climate actions change and cooperation. Below are some of the priority actions in 2024.

## Sustainable and equitable management of water resources

- Develop the major strategic axes and supporting documents for the reformulation of the regional water policy.
- Validation of the strategic axes of the revised Regional Water Policy .
- The Regional Action Plan for Integrated Water Resources Management (2014), to implement the regional water policy.

## Operationalizing the Regional Center for Management and Coordination of Water Resources in Central Africa (CRGRE-AC)

- Operationalization of the institutional framework of the CRGRE-AC (Committees)
- Development of a comprehensive inventory of Water Resources Management in CA
- Elaboration and validation of at least 3 collaboration agreements with Technical and Financial Partners (PTF) and other potential partners

## Operationalizing initiatives for the fight against climate change and disaster risk

- Development of the Protocol relating to the strategy against the effects of climate change and resilient development in CA.
- Regional conference dedicated to the formulation of recommendations on the



# Thank You

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