Technical Report No. 2

Preliminary Findings of the Key Informant Interview Scorecards Towards Establish A Baseline For AMMA-2050

Photos from Stakeholder workshops 2016 in Senegal (left) and Burkina Faso (right)

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Lead partner for the report:

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Title:	Initial findings from analysis of the Key Informant Interviews (KII) scorecards undertaken to establish a baseline for AMMA-2050
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Publishable Summary

This technical report provides a summary of key findings from employing a Key Informant Interview scorecard with partners and key stakeholders engaged with AMMA-2050. The scorecards have questions designed for both decision makers and climate information providers. It was designed to monitor key areas of change, including decision makers' awareness of climate risks, product relevance, stakeholder engagement, planning under uncertainty, institutional capacity to use and communicate climate information, and regular channels for dialogue between decision makers and climate information providers. The analysis highlighted differences between decision makers and scientists with regard to the degree to which decision makers recognise that their decisions are sensitive to climate change, the relevance of currently accessible climate information and the degree to which uncertainties in this information constrain its use. There are differences between countries in both access to relevant climate information and the existence of regular channels for dialogue between decision makers and climate information providers. The findings inform the project's baseline and are due to be repeated annually.

Acronyms

AMMA-2050	African Monsoon Multidisciplinary Analysis-2050
CCASA	Changement climatiques, l'agriculture et la sécurite alimentaire
COMNACC	Comité Nationale du Changement Climatique - National Committee on Climate Change, Senegal
COMRECC	Comité Régionale du Changement Climatique – Regional Committee on Climate Change, Senegal
CONASUR	Conseil National de Secours d'Urgence et de Rehabilitation – National council for Emergency Assistance and Rehabilitation, Burkina Faso
DEEC	Direction de l'Environnnement et des Etablissements Classés- Department of the Environment and classified enterprises, Senegal
DGRE	Direction Générale des Ressources en Eau – Water Resources Department, Burkina Faso
DREEC	Division Régionale de l'Environnement et des Establissements Classés – Regional Department for the Environment and Classified enterprises, Senegal
FCFA	Future Climate For Africa programme
HIW	High Impact Weather
KII	Key Informant Interviews
MUH	Ministere de l'Urbanisme et de l'Habitat – Ministry of Urbanism and Housing, Burkina Faso
PWG	Pluri-disciplinary working group/ GTP Groupe de Travail Pluridisciplinaire d'Assistance agro-météorologique

1.0 Summary findings

AMMA-2050 developed a scorecard designed to establish a baseline and monitor key areas of change over the course of the project. The baseline aims to capture the current state of knowledge of West African climate change and its use in the decision making contexts of project focus. To achieve this we conceived sets of questions designed for both decision makers and scientists or climate information providers. Key areas of change being monitored through the scorecards include: decision makers' awareness of climate risks, product relevance, stakeholder engagement, planning under uncertainty, institutional capacity to use and communicate climate information, and regular channels for dialogue between decision makers and climate information providers.

Scorecards have been undertaken with twenty-four decision makers in Burkina Faso and Senegal and twenty-one scientists across Burking Faso, Senegal, France and the UK. All the Key Informant Interviews (KIIs) were asked to consider their responses in terms of the organisation, team or group with which they work, rather than on an individual basis. Scientists were asked to consider decision makers separately at national and sub-state levels.
In answering questions, respondents were given four options: not at all (0), somewhat (1), partially (2) and completely (3). Score card findings are reported here by option selection and scores averaged across selected key informants.

Focusing on enhancing understanding about High Impact Weather (HIW) events to inform medium-term (5-50 year) decision making in West Africa, AMMA-2050 is engaging in two pilot studies to examine how tailored climate information can better support specific decision making processes. In Burkina Faso, partners are seeking to ensure that the 2025 Grand Ouaga plan is appropriately informed by flood risk. In Senegal partners are developing climate information to inform research on sorghum and millet seed development, ensuring that breeding is tailored to improve scientific understanding of future climate risks. In support of upscaling, the project will seek to develop transferable approaches developed through these pilots and share emerging scientific understanding of future climate risks through related networks and complementary initiatives.

In Senegal frameworks for enabling meteorological and climate information to support decision making are well-developed at the national level and within a number of regions (DEEC/DREEC, COMNAC/COMRECC, CCASA, PWG). However, in interviews many key informants focused on the use of seasonal and sub-seasonal information, rather than longer-term climate information, and noted that existing frameworks have limited reach to local decision makers. Engagements between decision makers and research institutions are less clear, operating largely between key individuals with limited sharing of information within respective organisations. Channels for engagement between meteorological services and climate-related research do not seem to be well developed, an area which the emerging national framework for climate services is seeking to address.

In Burkina Faso, stakeholders mentioned extensive turnover of staff and changing government structures, together with lack of operationalisation and enforcement of policies and legislation developed. The Grand Ouaga plan, developed in 1999 and revised in 2008, did not fully integrate flood risks and appears to have included

limited consultation with a number of key ministries and research institutions. A number of ministries, including the Ministere de l'Urbanisme et de l'Habitat (MUH), the Conseil National de Secours d'Urgence et de Rehabilitation (CONASUR) and the Direction Generale des Ressources en Eau (DGRE), base their work primarily on current understanding of flooding (including the 2009 flood) and do not utilise scientific understandings of future climate risks. As in Senegal, a number of key informants raised the importance of strengthening engagements between decision makers and researchers, as promoted within the 2015 Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction. Informants also noted that 'there is not one Ouaga': there are the original central areas, the rural areas which have now been integrated within the expanding capital and the newly developed area.

In stakeholder meetings undertaken in both countries, key decision makers welcomed direct engagement with AMMA-2050 within the specific decision making processes proposed.

2.0 Decision makers' assessment of their engagement with climate information

The use of climate information is captured in Figure 1, which indicates decision makers' assessment of their organisations':

- Awareness of the sensitivity of their decisions to climate change
- Access to relevant climate information
- The reliability of climate information
- Extent to which climate information clearly conveys the level of confidence and uncertainty
- Capacities to use climate information within decision making.

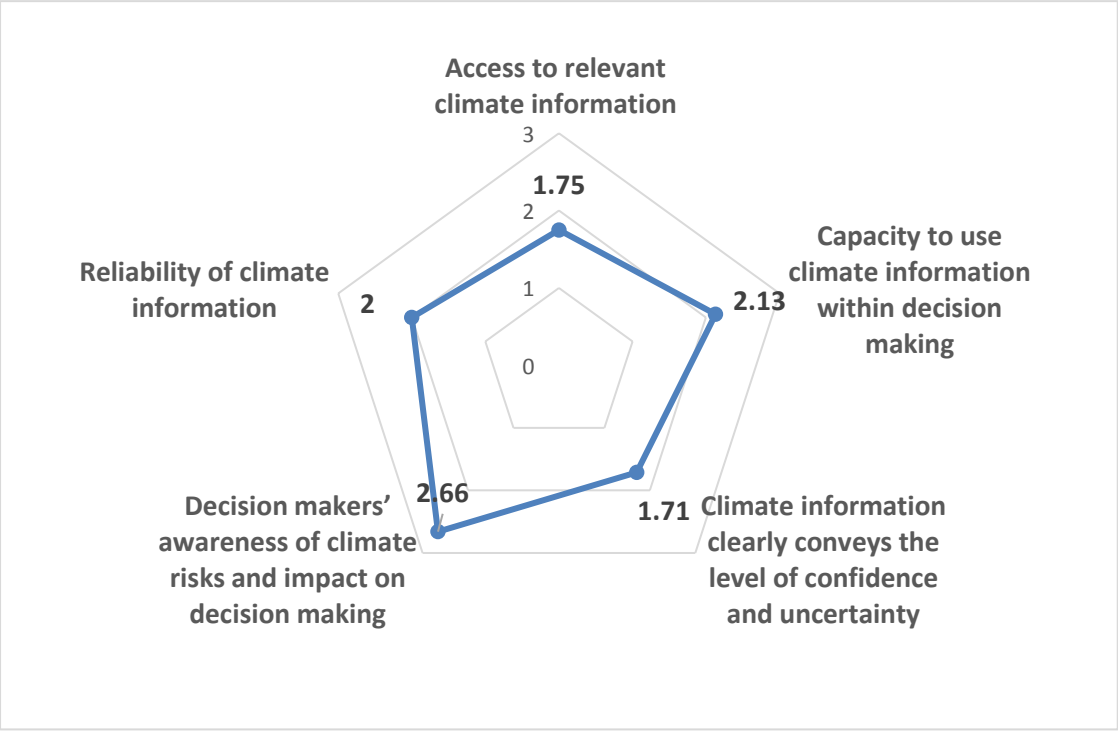

Figure 1: Decision makers' assessment of key areas of engagement with climate information

The majority of decision makers interviewed recognised that their decisions are completely or partially sensitive to climate change. This contrasts with the assumption of FCFA logframe Outcome Indicator 2, which assumes 'Generally low awareness of the relevance of long-term climate to decisions today'.

With most of the KII decision makers interviewed in Senegal having responsibilities directly relating to climate change, it is questionable how representative these findings are both of the organisations which they represent as well as other national ministries and sub-national decision making bodies. Indeed a number of key informants highlighted that climate is considered by many policy makers to be an 'environmental' issue, rather than being integrated within decision making across sectors and ministries.

While almost two thirds of the decision makers interviewed considered that their organisation had complete or partial capacities to use climate information within medium term decision making, more than a third assessed that their organisation had limited ('somewhat') capacity to use climate change information. A number of decision makers in Senegal identified significant differences in capacities to use climate information at different levels of decision making, with greater capacities at national and regional as opposed to sub-regional levels.

Almost all of the decision makers interviewed in Senegal felt they are currently able to access climate information relevant to support medium-term decision making (majority 'completely' or 'partially', average 2.08). This contrasts with Burkina Faso, where most decision makers felt they had limited (majority 'somewhat', average 1.42) access to relevant climate information (Figure 2,).

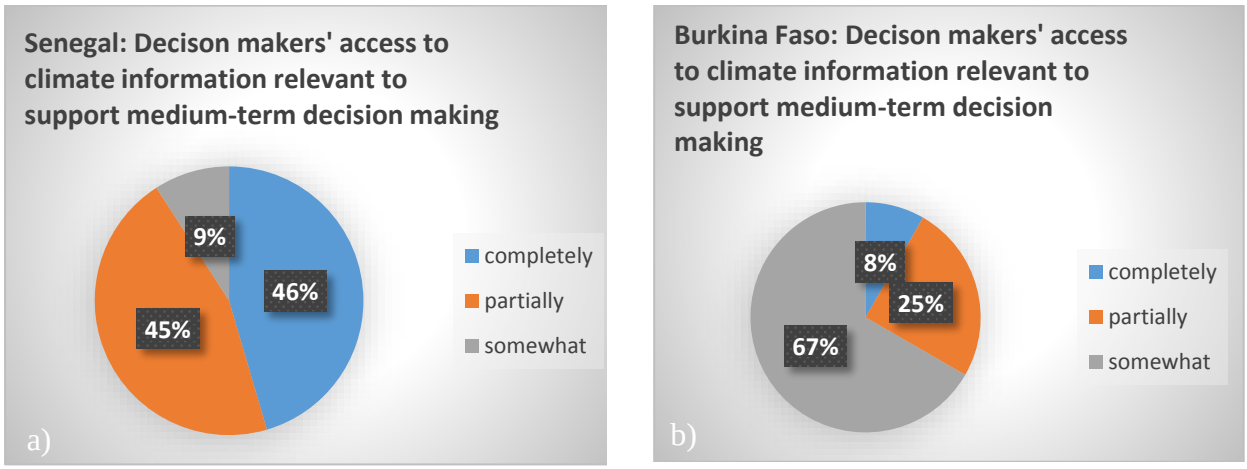

Figure 2: Comparison between interviewed decision makers' access to climate information relevant to support medium-term decision making in (a) Senegal and (b) Burkina Faso

3.0 Comparison between decision makers' and scientists' perceptions of how decision makers' assess and engage with climate information

Scientists thought that decision makers gave less consideration to climate change impacts than decision makers' self-assessment (Figure 3). On average, scientists assessed national and regional decision makers' consideration of climate change

impacts at 1.41 (majority ‘not at all’ or ‘somewhat’), and local decision makers 0.86 (majority ‘not at all’ or ‘somewhat’).

Scientists felt that climate information is to some degree (average 1.59, majority ‘partially’ or ‘somewhat’) provided in a format relevant to national and regional decision makers while almost all felt that it is provided in a format which largely does not meet local decision makers’ needs (average 0.91, majority ‘not at all’ or ‘somewhat’).

There are noticeable differences between decision makers’ appreciation of the reliability of climate information (average 2.0, majority ‘completely’ and ‘partially’) and scientists’ views on how climate information is viewed by decision makers (national decision makers average 1.48, majority ‘somewhat and partially’ and local decision makers average 1.24, half ‘somewhat’).

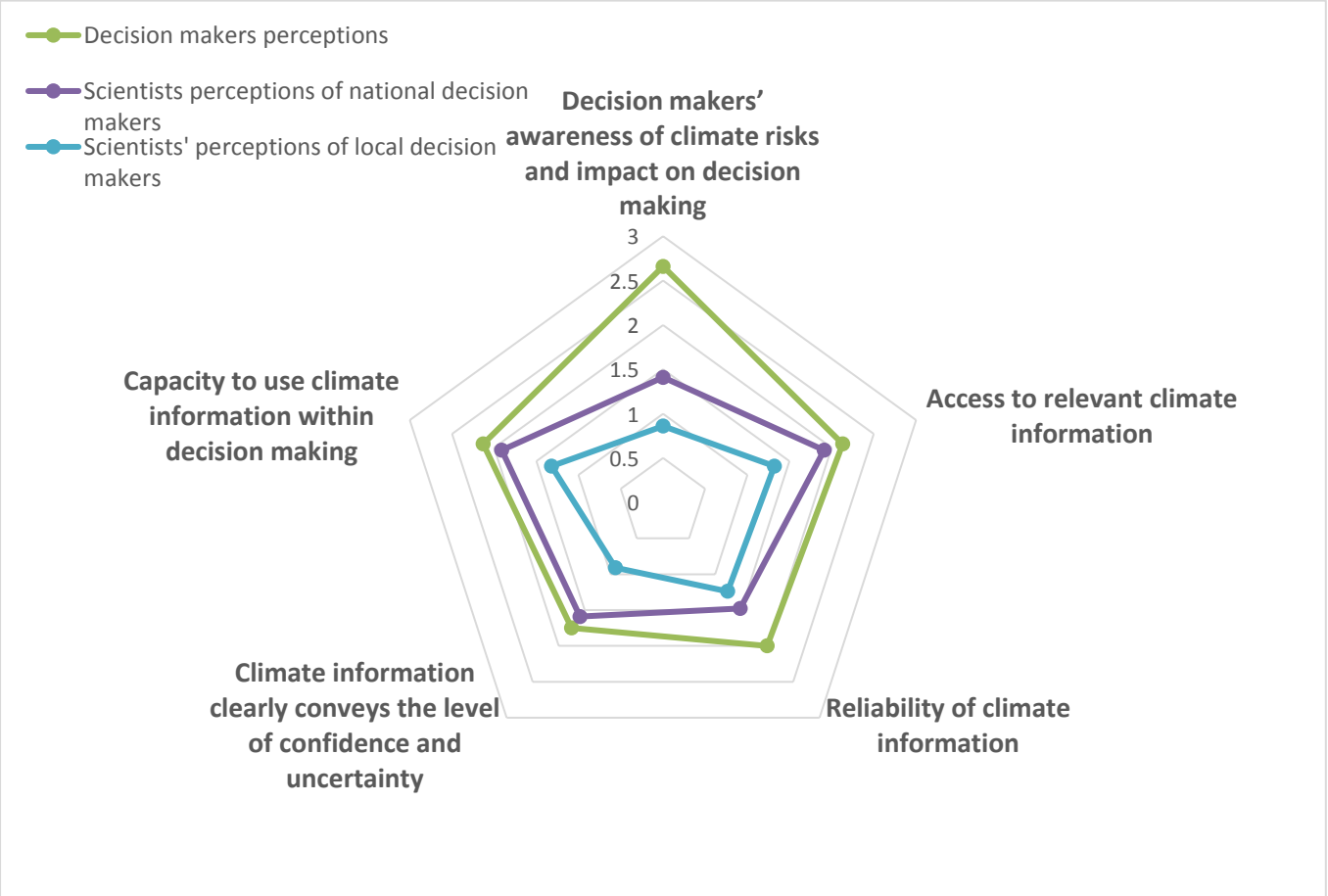

Figure 3: Comparison between decision makers’ perceptions of their engagement with climate information and scientists’ views of decision makers’ engagement at national and local levels

Scientists accord greater importance than national decision makers (scientists’ average 1.7, decision makers 1.33) as to how much uncertainties in climate information prevent national decision makers from using it. Scientists perceive that uncertainties in climate information are less of a constraint in local decision makers (1.25). Decision makers in Burkina Faso (1.33) accord less importance than decision makers in Senegal (average 1.58) as to how much uncertainties in the climate information prevent them from using it.

4.0 Consultation with decision makers and regular channels for dialogue between providers of climate information and decision makers

While most interviewed scientists consulted with decision makers about the types of information which can support their decision making, almost a third had no consultation at all with either national or local decision makers. More than half of the interviewed scientists based in Europe had no consultation with national and regional decision makers (average score 0.7), and more than two thirds no consultation with local decision makers (average score 0.6).

There are considerable differences between Burkina Faso and Senegal concerning the existence of regular channels of dialogue between decision makers and climate information providers (Figure 4). Most of the interviewed decision makers in Senegal consider that there are fairly good regular channels for dialogue between decision makers and climate scientists (average 1.67). In Burkina Faso, decision makers assessed current levels of dialogue to be much lower (average 0.75), with the majority assessing that such channels were non-existent.

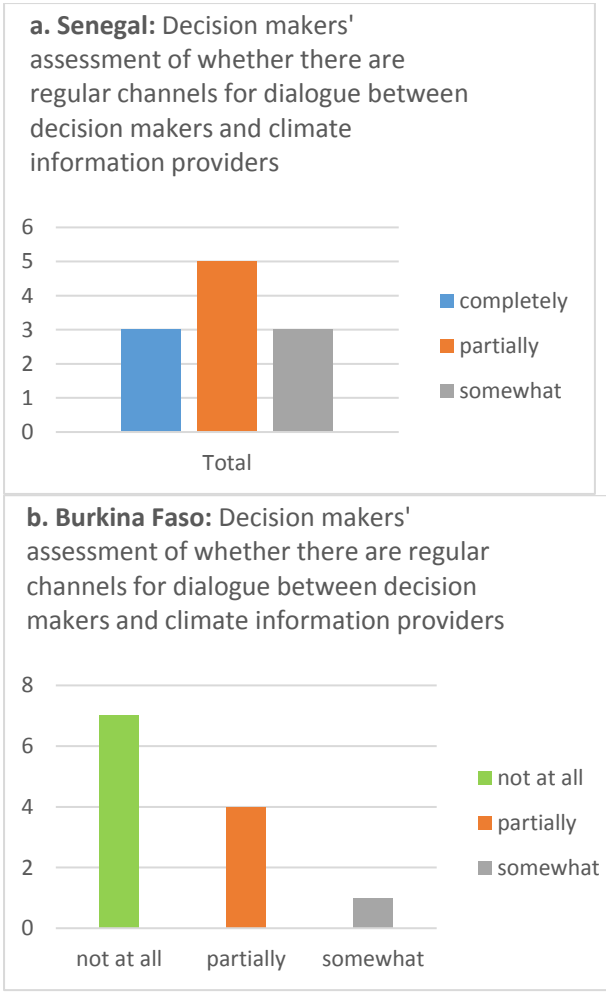

Figure 4. Breakdown by country of decision makers' assessment of channels for dialogue

Most scientists interviewed considered that channels for dialogue between the two groups are ‘partial’ or ‘somewhat’ for national and regional decision makers (average 1.75), and slightly lower for local decision makers (average 1.5). In Burkina Faso, interviewed scientists assessed current channels for dialogue to be higher (average 1.83) than decision makers (0.75).

On average, scientists assessed that their organisations had less institutional capacity to communicate with local (average 1.95) rather than national and regional decision makers (average 2.33). In regard to updating decision makers of emerging scientific understandings of climate, scientists reported widely varying levels (average 1.86 with regard to national decision makers, average 1.19 for local decision makers).

5.0 Regular monitoring and evaluation and organisational flexibility

Most interviewed decision makers reported that their organisations undertake regular monitoring and evaluation of work (average 2.24).

Decision makers assess that they have high levels of flexibility within their medium-term decision making (majority ‘completely’ or ‘partially’, average 2.38).
Scientists felt that their organisations have considerable flexibility to address national and regional decision makers’ climate information needs (average 2.24). In regard to addressing local decision makers’ needs, European rather than Senegalese scientific institutions have greater flexibility. Interviewed scientists in Burkina Faso reported varying levels of flexibility to address both national and local decision makers’ needs.

6.0 Tools and frameworks for planning under uncertainty

Few decision makers felt they had sufficient tools and frameworks to support decision making under uncertainty (average 1.0), with more than a third not having any. Scientists assessed that they had some frameworks and tools to support national decision makers (average 1.43) and local decision makers (average 1.35). In the interviews, a number of decision makers and scientists welcomed opportunities to engage in developing these with AMMA-2050.

7.0 Preliminary Discussion

The current assessment presents a baseline of perceptions about the current state of production of (access to) understanding and use of climate information across partnering scientific and decision-making institutions within the countries involved in AMMA-2050. This exercise is planned to be repeated with the goal of capturing key informants’ perceptions of changes in partnering institutions, with findings triangulated with the monitoring of policies, decision making bodies and a range of stakeholder engagement activities. As far as realistically possible the same group of key informants will be interviewed in the future at scheduled times to enable consistency in assessing changes over the course of the project.