"First Technical Report"

Covering the period February-August 2010

IDRC Project 106002-001, Report 2011A2

Project title: "Strengthening the role of civil society in water sector governance towards climate change adaptation in African cities – Durban, Maputo, Nairobi"

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on behalf of research teams in
Maputo, Mozambique; Nairobi, Kenya; and Durban, South Africa

Submitted August 10, 2010 (revised 15/10/10, 15/1/11, and 4/2/11)

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1. Project Summary

This project includes research partners at the University of KwaZulu-Natal in Durban, the University of Nairobi, Eduardo Mondlane University in Maputo, and York University in Toronto, along with local environmental and community development NGOs in Durban, Nairobi and Maputo. The project's main development goal is to strengthen the capacity of civil society to influence water sector governance towards climate change adaptation in three African cities – Maputo, Durban, and Nairobi. Its specific objectives are:

1) to characterize the institutional framework for urban water governance in the three cities, and explain how the different actors within this framework cope with climate change and variability;
2) to identify and test viable alternatives for enhancing civil society roles towards adaptation to climate change and variability by vulnerable groups (e.g. by developing education, training and awareness programmes); and
3) to share widely the knowledge generated for potential adoption by other cities in Africa.

The project started in February 2010 and its activities are due to end by December 2012 with final reporting completed by February 2013. The first phase focused on setting up the project, organizing the first team meeting, establishing collaborative work relationships, and building the organizational frameworks necessary to support the research. The following provides an overview of research activities and outputs over the first six months of the project.

2. The Research Problem

Climate change is causing coastal erosion and periodic flooding in both Maputo and Durban, endangering scenic coastal roadways and causing saltwater intrusion, wind erosion, and desertification in urban food-producing areas; flooding in coastal slum areas; degradation of water quality in wells and potable water scarcity; and in Maputo the destruction of mangroves and threats to the locally-important shrimp fishery. There are clear signs that the sea level is rising, with concomitant expensive coastal management problems. The United Nations Habitat Cities in Climate Change Initiative emphasizes local government capacity-building, policy dialogue, climate change awareness, public education, and developing coordination mechanisms between all levels of government as priorities to help address these risks. Mozambique's national water law (1991) considers all water as state-owned, to be governed by the state for the benefit of the population, with water access for people, sustainability, and stakeholder participation as priorities. Four water basin committees have been established in Mozambique on the same general model as in Brazil. To make this participatory model more effective, the largest need is for capacity-building and community organizing to deepen and strengthen civil society's involvement in water governance.

As Mozambique's capital, largest and densest city, and the home of the main university in the country, Maputo has a key role to play in setting the standard for progressive urban governance and water management. Durban's municipal government has already developed a local climate change adaptation strategy; like Maputo, Durban faces coastal inundation and storm surges related to sea level rise, hotter temperatures and heat waves, changed rainfall and storm patterns, slum flooding and reduced drinking water supplies due to climate change. Local policy initiatives rely for effectiveness on awareness and capacity regarding climate change risks and adaptive responses in civil society. As in Brazil and Mozambique, South Africa is implementing watershed committees or "catchment management agencies" (CMAs) to decentralize decision-making and create a framework for integrating the needs of all stakeholders in water governance. Environmental education and confidence-building through capacity-raising are recognized as crucial needs in this process; for example, the Inkomati CMA has initiated outreach programs targeting rural poor, emerging farmers, women and youth. Grounded participatory research leading to accessible public education and responsive community-based programs with civil society organizations are needed to help address these significant water governance challenges. This type of action research is well-developed in Durban, partly due to the work of the Centre for Civil Society and its partner NGOs. Durban's proximity to Mozambique means that watersheds spanning both countries, and similar ecological situations, will help to facilitate the research networking of this project.

In Nairobi, severe pre-existing infrastructure needs are being exacerbated by water supply fluctuations and slum flooding related to climate change. Just as in Maputo and Durban, environmental awareness and education leading to more equitable governance processes are required. As noted by the Kenyan delegation to the 2007 UN conference on climate change in Nairobi, Kenya's adaptation focuses include education, good governance,

human resources development and training, institutional capacity building and management change, public finance improvement, and better national resources management. Nairobi, one of the largest and most complex cities in the world, provides a challenging arena for participatory governance research; results there are likely to have wide application in other large African urban areas.

3. Progress towards the project goals

Our progress towards achieving the project's goals is outlined below.

Objective 1: To characterize the institutional framework for urban water governance in the three cities, and explain how the different actors within this framework cope with climate change and variability.

Outcome 1: Actors involved in urban water governance gain better understanding of the institutional framework that is in place for coping with climate change and variability.

PROGRESS THIS REPORTING PERIOD: Academic and NGO team members have prepared their individual presentations on climate change and urban water issues in relation to their current work, for sharing at the project's opening conference in late August, 2010. This meeting will allow partners to present and discuss their current understandings of the situation in each city, as well as appropriate ways of strengthening each partner organization's work in addressing climate change challenges. This opening conference will take place in Brazil, where watershed committees have been created to decentralize decision-making and create a framework for integrating the needs of all stakeholders in water governance. Partners will have the opportunity to visit several community-based capacity-building projects and to learn about the Brazilian framework for urban water governance as well as to explore and discuss its potential and adaptability in their own local contexts.

Objective 2: To identify and test viable alternatives for enhancing civil society roles towards adaptation to climate change and variability by vulnerable groups.

Outcome 2: Civil society organizations use identified or developed interventions to help vulnerable groups cope with climate change and variability.

PROGRESS THIS REPORTING PERIOD: We have planned a series of training and capacity-building opportunities in conjunction with our Inception Meeting, which address this objective. Project planning sessions at our first team meeting will allow partners to discuss and share collaborative intervention strategies in each city and plan their initial approaches together, with special focus on gender and equity. Partners will learn about strategies and alternatives for enhancing civil

society roles towards adaptation to climate change and water governance from the ECOAR Institute for Citizenship, a not-for-profit organization based in São Paulo, Brazil, which has extensive experience in providing environmental education and capacity-building to vulnerable groups.

Objective 3: To share widely the knowledge generated for adoption by other cities in Africa.

Outcome 3: Lessons learnt from the study cities are being used in other cities within the three countries and other African countries (up-scaling and out-scaling of project results).

PROGRESS THIS REPORTING PERIOD: We have already begun to address this objective. Information presented and shared among the three country teams at our opening conference will be available for publication on our website and in book format. Teams in each city are meeting with local officials to present the project's focus and begin sharing its goals and initial approach. Academic partners are preparing and supervising students who have demonstrated a keen interest in interning at partner NGOs. Internships will begin in the latter half of 2011. In addition, partners plan to share project-related findings, strategies and research at several upcoming conferences including the 2011 World Social Forum and the 17th Conference of the Parties of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

The Activities originally planned for the first six months of our project, as listed in our project goals and timeline, all address Objective 1 and are as follows:

Activity 1.1: Each local team holds a meeting in its own city to develop work plans, forge working relationships between university and NGO partners, and agree on the research instruments and processes (Project partners and facilitator – months 1 and 2).

> **PROGRESS: These meetings will take place once all team members have introduced themselves and their work to each other at the Inception Meeting, and are now planned for the latter half of year 1.**

Activity 1.2: Identify stakeholders working in area of study in each city (Government organisations, Civil society organisations, NGOs, collaborating universities, students and research assistants – month 3).

> **PROGRESS: Team members have begun this identification of stakeholders in preparing their initial presentations for the Inception Meeting. This activity will continue in the second half of year 1.**

Activity 1.3: Develop an innovations platform that brings all stakeholders in each city together (Government organisations, Civil society organisations, NGOs, collaborating universities, students and research assistants – month 4).

> **PROGRESS: Our plans for the Inception Meeting represent the initial innovations platform for bringing together academic and civil society actors, both locally and internationally. This model will be expanded throughout year 1 as student interns and researchers, and government officials, will be invited to join the discussions in each city.**

Activity 1.4: Train research assistants in data collection methods related to climate change (Civil society, NGOs, collaborating universities, local government – month 4).

> **PROGRESS: Because of the timing of the academic year, student interns and researchers will not be identified and able to begin their work until early 2011. This activity therefore must be postponed until the latter part of year 1 and beginning of year 2.**

Activity 1.5: Research assistants and community groups bio-map climate change vulnerability in each city (Civil society, NGOs, collaborating universities, students and research assistants – month 5).

> **PROGRESS: The community bio-mapping workshops are likewise postponed until the latter part of year 1 and beginning of year 2.**

Activity 1.6: Facilitate collective story telling about the lives of those in the area of study (Civil society, NGOs, collaborating universities, students and research assistants – months 5 and 6).

> **PROGRESS: We plan to introduce and share perspectives at the Inception Meeting on the innovative community workshop strategies this project employs; the collective story-telling will accompany bio-mapping and other community workshop interventions in the early part of year 2 of our project.**

All of the Activities intended to accomplish Objectives 2 and 3, as envisioned in our project goals and timeline, were to take place in years 2 and 3 of the project. However, as noted above, we have already begun to address these Objectives even in this first reporting period.

Our first annual report will discuss our progress activity-by-activity in much greater detail.

4. Project Implementation and Management

The institutional approvals and budget/administrative fine-tuning for our project were finalized by early 2010, and York University ethics approval procedures and setting up project accounts took several months. As soon as we had access to project funds, in June 2010, Patricia Figueiredo was hired as our part-time bilingual project coordinator, and we then organized the initial team meeting (see Inception Meeting Report). At this meeting, to take place in São Paulo and Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, the project team will have the opportunity to visit and observe a number of community-based environmental education and climate change awareness initiatives led by Brazilian NGOs. Besides providing opportunities for the project team to get to know each other and initiate exchange ideas within Africa, the agenda for this weeklong team meeting/workshop/conference also includes sharing of team members' reports on existing conditions and challenges in each African city, discussion of the contributions and specific directions for the project, and detailed project planning sessions.

In this initial phase of the project, to address a number of unforeseen personnel changes at participating institutions and NGOs, we are adding several new members to our team while already beginning to expand the research network. These personnel changes include:
- The unfortunate (hopefully temporary) withdrawal from the project of University of Nairobi Prof. Elijah Ndegwa, who underwent a kidney transplant in late 2010.·
- The withdrawal from the project of Kenyan Prof. Nelson Mango, who has transferred professionally from Nairobi to Zimbabwe.
- The addition to the project team of University of Nairobi Prof. Romanus Opiyo, a Planner who works closely with Professor Ndegwa and was seconded by him to provide University of Nairobi representation.
- The addition to the project team of Eduardo Mondlane University Prof. Eugenia Cossa, director of the Faculty of Education at UEM, which is launching a new program in Environmental Education this year.
- The addition to the project team of several NGOs and their representatives: KENDREN (Wahu Kaara) and the Kilimanjaro Initiative (Sadique Bilal Issa) in Nairobi; MUGEDE (Saquina Mucavele) and Justiça Ambiental (Erika Mendes and Tiago Esmael) in Maputo; and Umphilo waManzi (Mary Galvin), the Climate Chronicle (Rehana Dada), and the South Durban Community Environmental Alliance (Lushendrie Naidu) in Durban. In some cases, these NGOs have substituted for others who had to withdraw their participation for various reasons**.** All were selected because of their work in areas related to climate justice, and based on positive recommendations from colleagues working in this field.

We have also begun to develop the project's website through York University channels, set up the project office, advertised and interviewed applicants for the York University graduate student assistant (GA) position and selected the GA for academic year 2010-2011 (Elizabeth Lorimer).   Representatives of two of our partner organizations, MUGEDE and Kilimanjaro Initiative, will be attending IDRC's PAR workshop in Accra,

Ghana in September 2010. Our success in reaching and involving NGO partners entails a need to increase the amount budgeted for Research Assistants in order to maintain a Research Assistant position within each participating NGO. Professor Mango's departure from Nairobi, and our decision to maintain just one academic partner in each country, has freed up the amount originally budgeted for one Project Advisor, which will partially offset amounts needed for the additional Research Assistant positions. Proposed budget revisions, which were discussed at our initial team meeting, are outlined more fully in the Inception Meeting Report.

Costs for student exchanges, PAR training, NGO Research Assistants' expenses, project advisors, and some Monitoring and Evaluation costs will begin to be incurred in our next reporting period (September 2010 – February 2011). The meeting costs for our second team meeting will be incurred in the following reporting period (March – August 2011).

5. Project Outputs and Dissemination

Project outputs thus far include the opening conference presentations, which will be prepared for a book manuscript and publication on the project's website (see the Inception Meeting Report); planned discussion of the project in Ellie Perkins's presentation to the Social Technology Round Table at the ICID Conference on Climate Change in Semi-Arid Regions in Fortaleza, Brazil, August 12-19, 2010; and a planned conference report on the project's opening workshop (for submission to the journal Climate and Development). At our opening team workshop, we will discuss the project's PAR training, Monitoring and Evaluation process, and Communications Strategy. These are summarized here, and in some cases they relate to the proposed budget modifications, which are outlined in the Inception Meeting Report. Once these three documents have been finalized following more online discussions with the project team, they will be forwarded to IDRC. We are also preparing a brochure and planning for representation and presentation of our project at COP16 in Cancun, Mexico and looking forward to COP17 in Durban, South Africa in 2011.

PAR Training

A separate report on PAR assessment and training needs of our NGO partners and other community organizations in each city is being prepared. We would like to ask Brazilian environmental educator Débora Teixeira, who has decades of experience with community-based watershed environmental education and climate change organizing using PAR methods, to lead a week of training workshops with MUGEDE and Justiça Ambiental community educators and organizers in Maputo in early 2011. Partner organizations in Nairobi and Durban are in the process of locating and proposing PAR trainers in each city who can lead similar training workshops there. Time frame: March-April 2011. Trainers will develop workshops appropriate for the activities and needs of the partner NGOs in each city, providing opportunities for them to work collaboratively and reinforce each other's activities.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The first M&E session for our project will take place in conjunction with our second team meeting, in August 2011 in southern Africa (Durban and Maputo). We will engage a qualified bilingual (Portuguese/English) professional who is familiar with IDRC's and general project management procedures, our project's goals and constraints, and with climate change adaptation and water management issues. The evaluator will visit all project activities and work with NGO staff and other team members to develop effective strategies for improving the project's outcomes and results in the final year of its work. The evaluator will also be asked to do a final wrap-up evaluation of the project with the team, and to assist with disseminating its results, at the time of the project's completion. We will submit a Monitoring and Evaluation Plan along with our first annual report.

Communications Strategy

Communication of this project's results will continue throughout the project, beginning with meetings in each city to introduce the project and its goals and approach to local officials, chiefs and community leaders. The development of our characterization of the existing infrastructure and decision-frameworks for watershed and climate change policy-making and implementation in each city will thus proceed iteratively, as partner organizations and student researchers simultaneously learn from and teach local officials and leaders about climate change goals and approaches to reach those goals. The project's website is one way of recording and updating this information as it develops; other methods for sharing and building on this information are public meetings in each city, and reports on those meetings, which will be uploaded to the website; student interns' documentation of NGO processes, workshop methods, and their context, which will also be posted on the website; and comparative studies of processes in different places, which will become part of published articles in academic journals. Information-sharing meetings with local community members and local leaders will complete the circle of research by sharing its results with the participants. Policy recommendations stemming from the project will also be discussed and shared with local and regional officials before the project's close. Our book (Water and Climate Change in Three African Cities: Challenges and Community Initiatives in Durban, Maputo and Nairobi) will help to underscore the implications and importance of the project's focus for all participants and international researchers in this field; we also hope to publish a second book at the end of the project reporting on its methodological and equity-based contributions regarding ways of promoting equitable climate change adaptation. Journal articles and conference presentations by the academic members of the project team will help to share our results throughout the international academic community. NGO partner organizations will be able to incorporate the project's methodologies in their ongoing work which will continue after the project's close, and they will also share its approaches in their own networking channels.

Capacity-Building Assessment

Capacity development and research reporting has thus far included preparation by all partners of their initial "baseline" reports summarizing their organizations' current work

related to climate change awareness, community education and water governance, and the main issues and challenges faced in their cities. These reports are to be presented in a shared discussion at our first full team meeting, August 22-29, 2010. Capacity-building for all participants is a primary goal of our August workshop/conference, which is structured around field visits and introduction to a range of Brazilian water governance, activism and community climate change initiatives; development and presentation of each partner's work in this area; and additional presentations on the importance of NGOs and community-based initiatives in climate change adaptation. We also include a focus on equity and gender issues in the project team workshop. Team members are all in a position to share what they learn at the workshop with others in their home organizations as the project gains steam. Three students enrolled in partner universities will attend the workshop: Simphiwe Nojiweza and Rehana Dada of UKZN, and Elizabeth Lorimer of York University.

Outcomes and Impacts

It is still early to document the project's reach and impacts as described in the initial plans, but information is already getting out about the project and we are being contacted regularly by new network members, students, NGOs and researchers. We are following up on these contacts and enlarging our research network accordingly. African NGOs have indicated additional potential partner organizations, including the Project for Public Spaces (suggested by Tim Challen, Director of the Kilimanjaro Initiative), the Transborder Research Universities Network and International Community Adaptation Network and Climate Wise Women (suggested by Dawn Bazely, Director of York University's Institute for Research and Innovation in Sustainability), and the African Youth Initiative on Climate Change and Water Security (suggested by York University graduate student Linda Chebichii). These are all potential venues for disseminating the project's results and widening our research base.

We have begun to develop a bibliography on topics related to the project, which will appear in our first publication – either as a journal special issue or a book, as well as on the project's website – with chapters by each member of the research team. These will be based on team members' presentations at the August 22-29 team meeting, and the team's discussions there. The book, provisionally entitled <u>Water and Climate Change in East African Cities: Challenges and Community Initiatives in Durban, Maputo and Nairobi</u>, will also serve as a base-line study of the situation in each city at the start of our project, and an introduction to the approach and prior project-related work of each partner organization.

6. Recommendations

- It would be very helpful if the CCAA program had a web portal where all the CCAA projects could easily share information with each other about what they are doing and learning (perhaps including project reports), and where IDRC could also post information for all the projects about such things as upcoming

workshops and PAR training sessions, reporting guidelines and expectations, etc. The "events" tab on the IDRC website is not currently functioning properly.

- A complete list of the CCAA program's specific reporting requirements and expectations, any additional reporting suggestions, and guidelines/templates for reports of particular types such as meeting and conference reports, would be very helpful. This could be added (as a tab) to the new CCAA page on the IDRC website.
- Since it has been announced that COP17 is to be held in Durban, and other interesting meetings are also arising which would be great ways of communicating our projects' approaches and results in Africa, we are finding that our budgets for travel and dissemination are insufficient to allow team members to attend these important events. Could IDRC open up an extra line of funding for communication and dissemination of CCAA project results within Africa?