



# afrialliance

Africa-EU Innovation Alliance for Water and Climate

## AfriAlliance Project Coordinator's Note



Dear reader,

On behalf of the whole AfriAlliance team, I am pleased to introduce the first AfriAlliance Newsletter!

The AfriAlliance project aims to better prepare Africa for future climate change challenges by having African and European stakeholders work together in the areas of water innovation, research, policy, and capacity development. We look forward to keeping you informed and up-to-date about our activities with our new AfriAlliance newsletter which we will issue quarterly from now on.

This first newsletter features the upcoming events at which you will be able to meet AfriAlliance partners – not least the first AfriAlliance Conference which we will hold in March in South Africa.

In the recent events section, we are looking back at some notable events and activities during the first year of AfriAlliance.

In our Partner News item, INBO reports on the role that it had as the official facilitator of a COP22 high level event dedicated to water. And we introduce UNESCO-IHE in its role as coordinator of AfriAlliance.

Read further for details – for daily updates, follow us on Twitter [@AfriAlliance1](https://twitter.com/AfriAlliance1).

All the best,

Uta Wehn

## About AfriAlliance

The Africa–EU Innovation Alliance for Water and Climate (AfriAlliance), is a 5–year project funded by the European Union’s H2020 Research and Innovation Programme. It aims to improve African preparedness for climate change challenges by stimulating knowledge sharing and collaboration between African and European stakeholders.



## Upcoming events - meet AfriAlliance partners!

### First AfriAlliance Conference

The first AfriAlliance Conference takes place from **22–24 March 2017** in Ekurhuleni, South–Africa, and serves as the launch of the AfriAlliance innovation alliance on the African continent. The Conference is hosted by ICLEI's LoCS4 Africa Congress.

[Read more >](#)

### afrialliance conference

22-24 March 2017, Ekurhuleni, South-Africa

in collaboration with



Local Climate Solutions

for Africa



### African Great Lakes Conference

AfriAlliance will host a workshop on "Social innovation needs in water and climate" at this 3–day Conference taking place in May in Entebbe, Uganda. The conference theme is "Conservation and Development in a Changing Climate".

[Read more >](#)



## AFRICAN GREAT LAKES CONFERENCE 2017

### Recent events

#### Launch of the AfriAlliance website

In September 2016, the AfriAlliance consortium launched its new [online platform](#), a key tool for the success of the project. The new website includes information on the Alliance and its activities, such as news sections, Twitter feeds, an events calendar, links to Akvopedia and the EIP Water Online Market Place.

[Read more >](#)



#### Launch of AfriAlliance Action Groups

AfriAlliance selected and launched in September 2016 working groups that it supports, through seed-money and outreach opportunities, to assist in identifying and addressing water and climate vulnerabilities. The Action Groups were designed to be bottom-up and demand driven allowing for local problems to be highlighted and for solutions to be developed.

[Read more >](#)



SIRAF Action Group members meeting in Burkina Faso (Photo credit: Minata Coulibaly)

### **First AfriAlliance Innovation Bridge Event**

AfriAlliance organized its first out of five Innovation Bridge Events (IBE) in October 2016 in Botswana, in collaboration with the 17th WaterNet Symposium and the University of Botswana – Okavango Research Institute. The goal of these events is to exhibit innovations (either social or technical) from universities, science councils and companies and to identify potential collaborators, funders and investors in view of their development and commercialisation.

[Read more >](#)



Dr Jean-Marie Kileshye Onema welcoming Botswana Minister of Lands and Housing Mr. Prince Maele to the Official Opening of the AfriAlliance Innovation Bridge Event

### **AfriAlliance side-event at COP22**

AfriAlliance was present at COP22 (November 2016), the first COP to be held in Africa since Durban in 2011, with a clear focus on water put by the United Nations and the Moroccan government. AfriAlliance organized a side-event in the EU Pavilion dedicated to the identification and matching of social innovation and research needs.

[Read more >](#)

## Partner news

### INBO: a greater role in COP

INBO was designated as the official facilitator of the COP22 high level event dedicated to water. It also took charge of the Secretariat of the Global Alliances for Water and Climate. A good news for the visibility of AfriAlliance and the communication on its progress in the United Nations climate conferences.

[Read more >](#)



### Get to know... UNESCO-IHE

UNESCO-IHE based in Delft (the Netherlands) is the largest international postgraduate water education and research facility in the world. It is the overall project coordinator of AfriAlliance and contributes to all AfriAlliance activities.

[Read more >](#)



**UNESCO-IHE**  
Institute for Water Education

## AfriAlliance partners



The Africa-EU Innovation Alliance for Water and Climate (AfriAlliance) is a 5-year project funded by the European Union's H2020 Research and Innovation Programme.



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