Bridging the Gap: Aligning State-Level Policies with Nigeria's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) Under the Paris Agreement.

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INTRODUCTION

The African continent has been profoundly affected by climate change, with the rate of increase in temperature and its attendant impacts, such as loss of biodiversity, coastal erosion, desertification, and saltwater intrusion, increasing at a faster rate than the global average.[1] These climate change issues pose a complex challenge for Nigeria, marked by uncertain long-term impacts, varying regional effects, and social inequalities that are aggravated by global power disparities. The ramifications of climate change are driving many Nigerians into poverty, jeopardizing economic growth and quality of life.

In light of this, Nigeria is dedicated to improving its approach to climate-related issues through comprehensive policies and institutional frameworks, which include the National Adaptation Plan Framework (NAPF) and the National Climate Change Law, which creates the National Council on Climate Change (NCCC), and pledges to achieve net zero emissions by 2060. In addition, to address the effects of climate change, it has a National Climate Change Policy and a Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) outlined in the Paris Agreement, which establishes an unconditional target of reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions levels by 20 percent below the business-as-usual emissions scenario by 2030, with the possibility of increasing this target to 47 percent contingent on

[1] Adelekan, I.O., Simpson, N.P., Totin, E., Trisos, C.H. (2022). IPCC Sixth Assessment Report (AR6): Climate Change 2022 - Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability: Regional Factsheet Africa. *Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change*. Switzerland. Retrieved fromhttps://policycommons.net/artifacts/2264240/ipcc_ar6_wgii_factsheet_africa/3023294/on 11 Apr 2023. CID: 20.500.12592/7qn5fk.

sufficient international support. A few flagship projects like the Nigeria Erosion and Watershed Management Project (NEWMAP), the Agro-Climatic Resilience in Semi-Arid Landscapes (ACReSAL), and the Great Green Wall (GGW), designed to incorporate climate considerations into development objectives and support both mitigation and adaptation efforts across all levels of governance, reflect this commitment. The NDCs also highlight critical sectors such as energy, agriculture, transportation, and waste management as essential areas for achieving these goals while promoting sustainable development that tackles both climate and socio-economic issues. Despite these measures, there is a lack of sufficient understanding regarding local adaptation efforts, leading to gaps in implementation and community-led initiatives. Considering Nigeria's varied socio-economic and environmental conditions, it is vital that climate policies are customized at both national and subnational levels, ensuring local strategies align with national climate objectives. This alignment calls for the incorporation of climate considerations into local development plans, the enhancement of subnational government capabilities, and the promotion of stakeholder involvement. Effective coordination will help connect national directives with local actions, facilitating the successful implementation of climate strategies that resonate with the realities of communities.

This discussion seeks to examine strategic methods for aligning subnational policies with national climate goals, emphasizing the importance of collaboration, capacity building, data-driven decision-making, legal frameworks, policy implementations, and awareness. By engaging in committed practices and sustainable approaches, Nigeria can bolster its climate resilience and secure a sustainable future for its citizens.

Status and Trends of Climate Action: Policies, Strategies, and Implementation Frameworks for Addressing Climate Change by the State

Nigeria functions as a federal republic, consisting of 36 states alongside the Federal Capital Territory (FCT), Abuja. This federal arrangement is intended to facilitate the division of powers and responsibilities between the national government and state governments. The Nigerian Constitution outlines the

distinct roles of both levels of government, assigning specific duties to each. While the federal government handles national issues such as defense, foreign relations, and immigration, state governments are tasked with managing local matters like education, healthcare, and environmental protection, as they are responsible for policies and programs that directly impact citizens' lives. Their functions include developing and enforcing regulations, overseeing public services, and promoting economic growth.

In the realm of climate change and environmental management, state governments play a vital role in crafting policies that tackle local environmental issues, promote sustainable practices, and contribute to national climate objectives, as they are responsible for policies and programs that directly impact citizens' lives. Their capability to customize policies to reflect local circumstances enables more efficient and pertinent reactions to climate change challenges, such as flooding, drought, and deforestation.

Climate change issues are challenging; however, it is impossible to address Nigeria's climate change challenges from a single central government. This presents an opportunity for multilevel approaches while aggregated subnational climate change action becomes imperative. Climate action does not happen in Abuja alone—it happens in states, local governments, and communities. Most of the states in Nigeria are demonstrating that with the right policies, partnerships, and investments, subnational governments can lead the way in climate governance and green economic transformation.[2]

Indeed, the visible gaps between federal-level climate action and subnational climate action hugely impact Nigeria's efforts to address climate change. While there are several policies at the federal level, the impacts of these policies are not being felt across the country due to the disconnect between the national actions and the subnational. This failure at holistic action is a nagging problem that underscores the importance of subnational action in complementing national actions.

[2] Professor Chinwe Obuaku-Igwe, Consultant on Climate Change and Renewable Energy to the Osun State Government

As a federating state, Nigeria's governance system is structured such that efforts from the subnational must combine and feed into federal efforts for a holistic goal of achieving national targets. It follows that, with climate change being mostly felt at the subnational level, genuine efforts to address climate impacts must include strategic and well-intentioned subnational actions to effectively achieve national and international goals.

Key climate change governance criteria reveal a gap in subnational climate change policies and action plans among Nigerian states and ultimately provide key elements for an effective climate change governance system for Nigeria's subnational sectors. This effort is critical to boosting climate action in the country, meeting the country's Nationally Determined Contributions, addressing salient developmental issues, and ultimately driving towards Nigeria's 2060 net-zero ambitions, which are hinged on green growth. Some states have initiated several state-led climate actions primarily through collaborative and community-based interventions that reflect both the state's vulnerability to environmental degradation and its evolving approach to resilience. Much of the state's climate response is embedded in its environmental and disaster management efforts, especially in the context of erosion control, waste management, and urban planning.

Many states in Nigeria have developed a range of environmental policies and strategies to address climate change. A review of these policies reveals a varied landscape in terms of their alignment with Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). Numerous Nigerian states have established their own climate action plans and environmental guidelines tailored to their specific challenges. These efforts may include renewable energy initiatives, sustainable agricultural practices, waste management strategies, and urban planning regulations designed to reduce emissions and enhance resilience. Several states have created dedicated agencies or departments focused on environmental protection and climate change, tasked with implementing policies, monitoring environmental conditions, and collaborating with relevant stakeholders. Furthermore, some states have devised comprehensive climate action frameworks that tackle vital

sectors like energy, transportation, and agriculture, often specifying concrete targets, actions, and timelines that are in line with national NDC commitments.

For example, Lagos has developed a Climate Action Plan that features initiatives for sustainable transportation, waste management, and renewable energy. The state's commitment to stakeholder engagement and public-private partnerships has led to notable advancements in emissions reduction and increased resilience.

Cross River State, recognized for its dedication to environmental conservation, has initiated programs centered on reforestation and sustainable land use. The state collaborates with local communities and NGOs to promote biodiversity and address deforestation, contributing to both climate mitigation and adaptation efforts.

Ekiti State is actively pursuing renewable energy solutions, particularly solar energy, to decrease dependence on fossil fuels. Its investment in solar projects aligns with national NDC commitments while also enhancing energy access for rural populations.

In Bayelsa State, various initiatives have been undertaken to tackle climate change, focusing primarily on weather monitoring, mangrove restoration, and institutional reforms. While these actions are commendable, they are somewhat limited in scope, tend to be reactive, and depend heavily on external organizations such as NGOs. One of the key initiatives in Bayelsa involves the establishment of additional weather stations to monitor rainfall and water levels, which has improved flood preparedness by offering timely information about weather patterns. Efforts to restore ecosystems, particularly through mangrove restoration and reforestation, have been prioritized for their crucial role in mitigating coastal erosion and preserving biodiversity. This includes the involvement of community networks in managing coastal resources, showcasing a localized approach to environmental conservation.

Moreover, institutional reforms, such as creating the Ministry of Blue Economy, represent a significant advancement in aligning state governance with global frameworks. As a proactive measure to promote sustainable use of marine and coastal resources, Bayelsa stands out as the only Nigerian state to establish such a ministry. Additionally, grassroots contributions to climate action in Bayelsa

demonstrate considerable potential, illustrated by community-driven bans on deforestation that highlight the effectiveness of local leadership. One instance showcases how a community independently enforced a policy to safeguard their forest, exemplifying the ability for self-regulation and environmental stewardship at the local level.

Borno State is making substantial progress in incorporating climate change considerations into its governance structures, particularly with the formulation and implementation of the Borno State Climate Action Plan (BOSCAP). Participants acknowledged this plan as a key policy tool steering climate-related initiatives within the state, highlighting a commitment to align state policies with national and international climate goals. A major focus is on the transportation sector, where the state government has introduced low-emission vehicles as part of BOSCAP's execution, aiming to decrease greenhouse gas emissions from a sector known for high carbon intensity in urban areas. In agriculture, the promotion of climate-smart agriculture (CSA) practices, such as those within the Agricultural Development Programme, aims to enhance food production systems while increasing resilience to climate fluctuations. This aligns with national objectives of improving food security amidst changing climatic conditions, simultaneously addressing adaptation and sustainable development needs in a state that relies heavily on agriculture for its economy. Additionally, afforestation and environmental restoration are prioritized, with Borno State actively participating in tree planting and reforestation campaigns as part of broader ecosystem restoration efforts. This indicates recognition of the importance of afforestation in combating desertification, lowering atmospheric carbon levels, and enhancing biodiversity which is a key concerns in the north Eastern ecological context.

Sokoto State participates in the Nigeria Erosion and Watershed Management Program (NEWMAP), a World Bank-supported initiative aimed at tackling land degradation and improving watershed management. This indicates that Sokoto is receiving federal and international assistance to confront climate-related environmental issues.

Adamawa State demonstrates a developing but significant array of state-led climate initiatives, primarily focusing on afforestation, environmental sanitation, and agricultural adaptation to climate change. The state's involvement in the Great Green Wall (GGW) initiative, a federally-supported program aimed at combating desertification through extensive afforestation efforts, is also noteworthy.

In Rivers State, a key area of state intervention revolves around combating illegal oil refining and its associated pollution, particularly the serious black soot problem. The government is taking steps to address this critical environmental and public health issue by tackling black soot, prohibiting open burning, and utilizing law enforcement to close illegal refining operations. While these measures are not explicitly categorized as climate mitigation efforts, they effectively target a significant source of air pollution and carbon emissions, aligning them indirectly with broader environmental and climate goals consistent with the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).

Zamfara has initiated campaigns aimed at combating deforestation, focusing particularly on the regulation of tree cutting. The government has implemented penalties for unauthorized logging and promotes the planting of replacement trees, especially in areas at risk of desertification. A specific campaign imposes fines on individuals who cut down trees without replanting them. This effort is part of broader initiatives designed to address desert encroachment and land degradation. In agriculture, climate-smart practices like drip irrigation, water harvesting, and composting are being introduced through World Bank-funded programs such as FADAMA and other climate-resilience projects. Although still in the pilot phase, these initiatives illustrate how climate objectives are being incorporated into rural livelihoods. Zamfara has also organized environmental awareness campaigns linked to World Environment Day and desertification control, often collaborating with NGOs and international organizations. These events generally feature advocacy efforts, stakeholder discussions, outreach to schools, and community clean-up activities, fostering public engagement on climate issues.

In Anambra one of the most significant government-led efforts is the statewide rail masterplan, jointly developed by the Ministry of Transportation and the Ministry of Environment. This project represents a strategic move to align state infrastructure with national and global climate mitigation targets, notably Nigeria's NDC. It is designed to promote low-carbon, climate-resilient transportation, incorporating features such as sustainable construction materials, energy-efficient systems, and renewable energy use: *"The rail masterplan is poised to facilitate a sustainable and low-carbon transportation system… contributing significantly to Anambra State's journey towards a net-zero carbon future."*

Beyond transportation, Anambra State is also investing heavily in tree planting and forest restoration as part of its climate adaptation and mitigation agenda. A major initiative involves the distribution of economic tree seedlings to residents to combat erosion and enhance community livelihoods. The state has launched a goal to plant up to ten million seedlings, complemented by a community-driven afforestation campaign in which each of the 179 communities is expected to contribute 1,000 trees totaling 179,000 seedlings: *"This initiative is expected to sequester approximately 5,303.7 tons of CO_2 over 30 years… enhancing environmental resilience."*

These actions are part of a broader strategy to combat gully erosion, which poses a severe threat in many parts of the state. The emphasis on community-led restoration suggests a strong grassroots component and reflects the government's attempt to embed climate solutions at the local level. In the agriculture sector, the state is promoting a suite of climate-smart practices through its Ministry of Agriculture. These include short-duration crop varieties, which can be harvested before flood seasons, flood-resistant and early-maturing rice strains, suited to vulnerable regions, and crop diversification, to mitigate the risks of climate-induced crop failure. According to the respondent, many farmers especially those informed through government outreach have begun to adopt these strategies to cope with climate variability, particularly in high-risk areas.

The state's green and just transition efforts also received international visibility in November 2024, during a two-day climate event supported by UNIDO. This

engagement points to Anambra's ambition to align with global climate frameworks and signals its interest in attracting international partnerships and funding for sustainable development.

It is crucial that the state-level policies and action plans are formulated to effectively tackle climate change at the state and community level. The importance of this cannot be overstated, as achieving Nigeria's national climate change objectives depends on the efforts and actions of State and Local Governments. Therefore, it is essential to urgently focus on subnational climate change governance, emphasizing the critical roles of climate policies and action plans at this level to meet both short- and long-term climate goals and the country's sustainable development ambitions. The notable gaps that arise from insufficient climate action are unacceptable and must be addressed promptly.

Given the varying impacts of climate change across Nigeria's 36 States and 774 Local Government Areas (LGAs), these subnational bodies are in a strong position to identify and implement necessary actions to address climate change based on their specific contexts. Actions taken should be adaptive, supported by mitigation strategies that contribute to national greenhouse gas emissions reduction plans to prevent future climate change impacts. Developing and implementing effective climate change policies and action plans is a key method to achieve this.

In a significant effort to enhance climate awareness and promote greater action at the subnational level, the Society for Planet and Prosperity (SPP), in partnership with the Department of Climate Change in Nigeria's Federal Ministry of Environment, conducted the first-ever evaluation and ranking of climate governance performance among Nigeria's 36 States. This ranking was based on five core themes:

i) Climate change institutional arrangements and administrative structures,

ii) Climate policy and action plans,

iii) Climate budget and finance,

iv) Implementation and monitoring of climate change projects,

v) Online presence related to climate action.

Gaps and Limitations in Current Climate Action

Nigeria has made some strides in integrating climate change adaptation into its development strategies at both national and local levels. Nonetheless, the country continues to grapple with several obstacles that impede its progress toward achieving climate adaptation objectives. The Nigerian government must address four crucial gaps: enhancing capacity building, securing financial resources, advancing technology development and utilization, and ensuring that policies align with regional adaptation needs, practices, and strategies. These challenges restrict Nigeria's ability to adapt and strengthen its resilience.

While Nigeria has expressed a commitment to tackling climate change through its Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), significant hurdles remain that obstruct effective alignment with these targets. Although national adaptation strategies encompass broad planning and policy formulation, local adaptation efforts are typically dynamic and iterative. Communities employ various traditional methods tailored to their specific environments to enhance their adaptive capacities and bolster resilience against climate change. Such adaptation practices, although ongoing for decades, have generally been small-scale. In recent times, however, there has been an increase in the number and frequency of adaptation initiatives in certain agro-ecological zones in response to escalating climate change impacts. Despite some positive advances in climate governance, states in Nigeria still encounter numerous challenges that undermine the effective execution of climate policies and initiatives. These challenges are institutional, financial, technical, security-related, and socio-cultural, creating a complex array of barriers that hinder progress from planning to implementation.

Regarding public awareness, although climate change is increasingly recognized as an issue, the general understanding remains superficial. Most people associate climate change primarily with extreme heat and fail to grasp its wider environmental repercussions. This observation underscores a significant gap in climate literacy within the population, particularly concerning the diverse impacts of climate change, such as flooding, erosion, and biodiversity loss—issues that affect some states notably due to urban expansion and deforestation. Efforts to raise awareness are ongoing but insufficient, as the government has initiated some educational campaigns through state-owned media and occasional

engagement with community leaders. However, these initiatives lack widespread and consistent implementation, limiting their overall effectiveness. Familiarity with the Nigerian Climate Change Policy (NCCP) seems to be largely restricted to professionals and stakeholders directly engaged in environmental governance, leaving the policy largely unrecognizable to the general public.

Consequently, the NCCP lacks visibility among the populace, diminishing its potential as a catalyst for collective action. Without a solid public understanding of climate change and related policy frameworks, the likelihood of civic participation in climate initiatives remains low. This lack of awareness hampers the government's ability to mobilize collective efforts, attract funding, and ensure sustainable community ownership of adaptation and mitigation strategies. There is also a notable lack of awareness among state policymakers regarding the implications of the NDCs, with many not fully understanding the objectives of the NDCs or the methods needed to integrate them effectively into local policy frameworks.

A dominant challenge is the ongoing insecurity and insurgency in some regions, such as Borno. This severely hampers development efforts, including those related to climate action. Security concerns regarding the state's ability to implement projects persist. This security crisis, largely fueled by long-standing conflicts and the presence of non-state actors, restricts access to rural areas, where many climate-related interventions, such as afforestation, agriculture, and community sensitization, would typically take place. The inability to reach these vulnerable and often highly impacted communities undermines the reach and effectiveness of climate programs.

Lack of adequate funding is also a major barrier identified. Climate-related projects often depend on external funding from federal agencies or international donors. One of our biggest challenges is funding; most of our interventions rely on donor support, and there's no dedicated climate budget in the state. This reliance on external funding makes climate initiatives vulnerable to inconsistencies, delays, or abrupt terminations once project cycles end. This funding gap is compounded by the low prioritization of climate issues at the political and executive levels. While climate change is recognized by some technocrats and

ministries, it often competes with more "visible" development challenges for attention and resources. This is because many in leadership still see climate change as a future problem, not something urgent. This perception leads to weak political will and limited integration of climate considerations into the broader state development agenda.

Another key challenge is institutional fragmentation and weak inter-agency coordination. While the establishment of the Climate Change Desk Office is a step in the right direction, it lacks the authority and resources to compel cross-ministerial collaboration. There is limited coordination between ministries. Many still work in silos, and climate action requires integrated planning. This hinders the pooling of technical and financial resources and limits the effectiveness of multi-sectoral climate responses.

Human and technical capacity constraints also emerged as significant barriers. The state lacks a critical mass of trained personnel with expertise in climate science, policy development, and project management. Capacity is a big issue; the states don't have enough trained people to design or manage climate projects, and even when they do, they're often transferred to unrelated departments. This weakens institutional memory and slows down momentum in building climate governance systems.

Another structural challenge is the absence of enabling legal frameworks to guide and enforce climate policy implementation. While the national policy provides a strategic outline, most states in Nigeria have yet to domesticate this through state-level legislation or regulations. As a result, there is little legal obligation for MDAs to comply with climate-related planning or reporting. Therefore, without a state climate law or enforcement mechanism, implementation is mostly voluntary.

Community engagement and public participation were also flagged as critical gaps. Even where awareness exists, local buy-in for projects is often low due to limited consultation or mistrust of government interventions. Community involvement is often an afterthought. This leads to resistance or a lack of ownership. Without meaningful participation, climate initiatives risk being misaligned with local needs and priorities. Finally, the lack of data and monitoring systems undermines evidence-based planning. The state does not currently have

a climate information hub or performance monitoring framework, making it difficult to assess the impact of projects or identify priority areas.

Opportunities and Recommendations

One of the most promising opportunities lies in the development of a comprehensive state climate policy to complement the existing action plan. There is need to formalize climate governance through legislation, which would clarify institutional roles, strengthen enforcement mechanisms, and promote policy continuity across political administrations.

There is also chance to capitalize on existing collaborations with federal entities and international organizations. Some states had previously gained from erosion control initiatives through the Nigeria Erosion and Watershed Management Project (NEWMAP) and similar federally supported efforts. Enhancing connections with these organizations could provide both financial and technical assistance. Building partnerships is essential; we should aim to attract additional support from national and global stakeholders.

Another potential area lies in integrating climate action into ongoing programs and ministries. Sectors like Health, Agriculture, and Education are receptive to incorporating climate considerations into their operations, particularly if they receive appropriate guidelines and capacity building support. These sectors can adapt their current initiatives to include climate-smart strategies. This method promotes efficiency and facilitates integration without necessitating entirely new institutional structures.

In terms of financing, the state may consider innovative funding options such as green bonds, climate trust funds, and public-private partnerships. Although still emerging at the subnational level, these avenues could diversify sources of climate finance and lessen dependence on donor assistance. Establishing climate-aligned budget lines in the state's financial planning could also ensure more sustainable funding for critical projects. Consequently, financial resources and support should be directed toward areas most vulnerable and in urgent need of action. By recognizing the diverse impacts and risks at the subnational level, resources can be allocated more efficiently.

In Anambra, the youth and civil society present a robust platform for grassroots mobilization and implementation. Existing partnerships with NGOs focused on waste management, clean energy, and education can foster greater public awareness, accountability, and innovation in project delivery. The importance of data and technology in facilitating evidence-based planning and monitoring cannot be overlooked. Creating a climate information hub or database would enable the state to systematically track risks, vulnerabilities, and responses. With effective data systems in place, we can enhance planning and demonstrate results to garner more support.

The work recommends the necessity for a dedicated state-level climate change policy and corresponding legislation. Such a framework would lend legal support to climate initiatives and ensure that ministries are responsible for integration and reporting. The state should also domesticate the National Climate Change Policy to reflect local contexts and drive action across various sectors. Building capacity at all levels, from technical personnel to political leaders, is crucial. Training, exposure to best practices, and knowledge sharing would equip stakeholders to design, implement, and evaluate climate programs effectively.

It's vital to raise awareness regarding the impacts of climate change and strategies for adaptation, including co-benefits beyond climate action. Local policymakers and stakeholders should educate communities across all agro-ecological zones of Nigeria about climate change, its effects, and adaptation measures, thereby helping them reduce vulnerability and enhance resilience against climate change impacts. However, many small businesses and vulnerable communities remain largely uninformed about climate policy frameworks and may perceive climate impacts as isolated incidents or purely natural. Rural communities often view these impacts as natural occurrences, disconnected from human influence. Policymakers need to craft climate policies and action plans tailored to the specific needs and vulnerabilities of each state and region.

Tackling climate impact at the state-level l necessitates improved planning and execution of adaptation strategies. This includes constructing resilient infrastructure, establishing early warning systems, and developing agriculture and water management practices that can withstand climate changes. Effective

coordination and collaboration among various local stakeholders are essential. Government entities, communities, non-governmental organizations, and businesses should join forces to more effectively confront climate-related challenges. Climate policies ought to be crafted considering the specific local context, engaging local communities in the decision-making process to cultivate a sense of ownership and accountability regarding climate initiatives. This approach will help ensure that climate actions are realistic, attainable, and aligned with the needs of the local population, thereby increasing the chance of successful implementation and sustainability of such initiatives in accordance with Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). Since climate impacts can evolve, conducting assessments at the subnational level enables ongoing monitoring and adjustment of policies and priorities. Continuous evaluation is vital for effectively addressing new challenges as they arise. Additionally, there exists an opportunity to build on existing partnerships with federal and international organizations; for instance, some states have previously benefited from projects focused on erosion control through the Nigeria Erosion and Watershed Management Project (NEWMAP) and other federally supported initiatives. Enhancing collaborations with these bodies could provide both financial and technical assistance. Ultimately, forming strong partnerships is crucial, and there is a need to attract further support from national and global actors.

Conclusion

Nigeria is paying heavily as a result of climate change impacts and needs to act fast to increase its adaptive capacity. To tackle these challenges, it has developed several policies at the national level with ambitious plans and strategies for climate change adaptation. Consequently, it is vital to develop a state-level or subnational climate change policies and action plans, which would provide legal backing and strategic direction. Without such state-level climate laws and policies integration will remain informal and optional. A well-defined policy could set clear mandates for ministries, budgeting processes, and implementation timeline while also providing the legal grounding for enforcement and reporting. However, Nigeria's "top-down approach" to integrating climate change often excludes key

stakeholders, such as those with effective and sustainable adaptation solutions—namely indigenous groups, local communities, youth, local and state governments, and women—from the decision-making process. This exclusion hampers the effective execution of the National Adaptation Plan (NAP) framework. The government has an opportunity to collaborate more closely with local communities engaged in grassroots adaptation to identify feasible projects for scaling and integration into the NAP framework in accordance with the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).Aligning state-level policies with Nigeria's NDCs under the Paris Agreement is critical for impactful climate action. By formulating state-specific climate action plans, enhancing capacity, promoting collaboration, securing financing, and establishing robust monitoring systems, Nigeria can connect national commitments with local implementation. This alignment will not only aid in fulfilling Nigeria's NDCs but also foster sustainable development, resilience, and a healthier environment for future generations. Moving forward, a coordinated approach at both national and state levels will be essential for tackling the challenges posed by climate change in Nigeria.