



**Interlink**

Feedback from African or NIS partners

## Good momentum for European and African scientists to work on African climate related issues

*You have been part of an INCO project in the scope of the last European Framework Program, FP6. What was the project about? Which countries or regions were part of the project?*

AMMA is dealing with understanding West African climate and its impacts on socio-economic activities and society. The project strategy is geared towards improving environmental risk decision processes and thus reducing the vulnerability to weather and climate events. Finally, AMMA aims at integrating various disciplines (geophysics as well as human dimensions) in order to improve climate prediction, food security and land productivity, decision making in public health, better management of water resources. The target region is West Africa.

*How did you connect with the EU consortium? What was your role in the project? How easy was your integration in the project?*

I was involved by colleagues in CNRS and French Universities with whom I was already collaborating. Inside the consortium I'm in charge of the coordination of the African partners; I ensure the coordination of the communication staff who produced an African brochure and newsletters. I'm also working on scientific tasks to ensure the integration of scales between geosciences and applications in agriculture, water resources, health and socio-economy. During the preparation phase of the project, we met in Dakar with European colleagues and we defined the activities that we would need to fulfill, as well as the administrative tasks to undertake. After the meeting we went through a phase of proposal writing and I contributed in my areas of intervention. I have also ensured that the necessary documents were signed by UCAD's Administration and sent everything to Paris.

*What were the main benefits/drawbacks of such cooperation for your project?*

The project gives good momentum for European and African scientists to work on African climate related issues. It provides opportunities to build local capacities: upgrade of the environmental monitoring system, development of a new forecasting system of the region, training (summer schools, PhD Thesis, Co-supervision of Thesis...), publications of new and original results... A very good experience!