



REALIZING A SUSTAINABLE GLOBAL FUTURE THROUGH SCIENCE

Addressing complex sustainability challenges, including climate change, rapid urbanization, deforestation and natural disasters, requires ambitious responses that are locally- and regionally-driven, grounded in science and developed with partners from all sectors of society.

For over 25 years, START has provided opportunities for training, research, education and networking for advancing solutions to these critical challenges.

START works with partners to strengthen scientific knowledge, connect people and institutions, and inspire the next generation of scientists toward a sustainable future.

OUR APPROACH



HIGHLIGHTS OF OUR WORK

Strengthening knowledge for action

START is a key partner in the Adaptation at Scale in Semi-Arid Regions (ASSAR) program supported by IDRC and DfID, a collaborative effort with the Universities of Cape Town and East Anglia, the Indian Institute for Human Settlements, and Oxfam Great Britain. The project aims to improve the understanding of the barriers and enablers to climate change adaptation in semi-arid areas in Africa and Asia. START leads the West Africa team and plays a prime role in developing capacity and science communications skills of early-career researchers, community members and stakeholders in all the project's regions.

Inspiring and connecting scientific leaders

START coordinates capacity building for the Global Observation of Forest Cover and Land Dynamics (GOFC-GOLD) program established with the support of NASA and the US Geological Survey's Center for Earth Resources Observation and Science (USGS-EROS) to facilitate access to, and use of, satellite data. In 2016-2017, START convened capacity building events in Latin America, Africa, Asia and South and Central Europe engaging over 500 scientists from a dozen of regional networks.

Building bridges between science and society

START implements the Future Resilience of African Cities and Lands (FRACTAL) project by supporting transdisciplinary knowledge partnerships that engage city officials, sectoral resources managers, climate modelers, and social and biophysical researchers. The project, a collaboration with the University of Cape Town, the Stockholm Environment Institute, the Red Cross/Red Crescent Climate Centre and others, advances knowledge on regional climate impacts for decision making at the city-region scale in nine Southern African cities.

25 YEARS OF IMPACT

A selection of highlights from completed programs

From 2008 to 2016, the African Climate Change Fellowship Program (ACCFP) promoted skill building on adaptation research in Africa. More than 300 PhD and post-doc students, policy and teaching fellows, and individuals from government and NGOs, were matched with mentors at host organizations across Africa. The fellowship experience combined research funding with specialized trainings and targeted opportunities for national, regional and international collaboration.

From 2002 to 2007, the Assessments of Impacts and Adaptation to Climate Change (AIACC) project conducted 24 sub-regional climate change assessments in Africa, Asia, Latin America, and small island states, involving over 300 scientists from more than 50 developing countries. The project produced over 200 publications, and provided critical inputs to the 4th Assessment Report of the IPCC.

1st Workshop
Community Vulnerability and Adaptation to



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