



CARIAA
Collaborative Adaptation Research
Initiative in Africa and Asia

COLLABORATIVE
ADAPTATION
RESEARCH
INITIATIVE IN
AFRICA AND
ASIA



The Collaborative Adaptation Research Initiative in Africa and Asia is a 7-year, CAD\$70 million program that funds research to inform decisions and practices of communities, businesses and governments to address the long-term effects of climate change.

CARIAA focuses on helping the most vulnerable communities in South Asia and Africa, located in areas we call hot spots: geographic regions that are home to a large number of poor people whose livelihoods depend on economic activities that are threatened by a changing climate. These areas include:

- Deltas, such as the Ganges-Brahmaputra-Meghna in Bangladesh and India, where sea-level rise and cyclones threaten a large population
- Semi-Arid regions, like the plains of Kenya, where droughts and changing rainfall patterns impact agricultural livelihoods and water security
- Glacier-fed river basins, such as the Indus in Pakistan, where extreme events like floods endanger communities' health and safety

Because climate change demands collaboration, CARIAA funds four consortia, each focusing on a different hot spot. The consortia bring together researchers and practitioners, from the North and the South, with different backgrounds and expertise, to create and share knowledge that will help poor people build resilience to climate change.

While climate change is a global threat, some parts of the world are especially vulnerable to the extreme effects of climate change, such as sea level rise, changes in precipitation patterns, and the melting of glaciers. The geographic location and ecological sensitivity of semi-arid lands, deltas, and glacier- and snow-pack dependent river basins make them 3 examples of such vulnerable regions. Climate change in these "hot spots" threatens the livelihoods of large populations: over a billion people in total, a majority of which are poor.

CARIAA's objectives

CARIAA aims to help build the resilience of poor people to climate change by supporting a network of consortia to conduct high-caliber research, informing adaptation policy and practice in hot spots in Africa and Asia.

To achieve this aim, CARIAA will develop:

- **New knowledge:** high-calibre, peer-reviewed, co-generated research on vulnerability, adaptation and resilience within and across hot spots. This research will be widely shared, in multiple formats for a range of audiences, through proactive ongoing outreach and a commitment to open access publication.
- **New capacities:** collaborative networks that strengthen adaptation and resilience expertise among researchers, policymakers, and practitioners. Opportunities for early career scholars will help prepare the next generation of researchers.
- **Better-informed policy and practice:** Interaction with research users is integral to CARIAA's design and vision. Continuous engagement with communities, practitioners and policymakers ensures that results inform action on multiple levels.

Our approach

Hot spots: CARIAA uses the hot spot as a lens for research on common challenges across different contexts. The program focuses on three types of hotspots in Africa and Asia:

1. Semi-arid regions of Africa and South and Central Asia
2. Deltas of Africa and South Asia
3. Glacier and snow-pack dependent river basins in South Asia

Collaboration through consortia: Research on climate change adaptation demands collaboration across disciplines. While other programs conduct or support research addressing particular sectors, countries and/or regions, CARIAA fills a gap by working within and across them. Each consortium focuses on a different hot spot, outlined in the table below:

Meet the CARIAA consortia

Consortium	Hot spot	Countries
Adaptation at Scale in Semi-Arid Regions (ASSAR)	Semi-arid lands	Botswana, India, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Mali, Namibia, and Uganda
Deltas and Vulnerability to Climate Change: Migration and Adaptation (DECCMA)	Deltas	Ghana, India, Bangladesh
Himalayan Adaptation, Water and Resilience Research on Glacier and Snowpack Dependent River Basins for Improving Livelihoods (HI-AWARE)	Glacier- and snowpack-dependent river basins	India, Bangladesh, Nepal, Pakistan
Pathways to Resilience in Semi-arid Economies (PRISE)	Semi-arid lands	Burkina Faso, Senegal, Kenya, Tanzania, Pakistan and Tajikistan

For more information on the consortia, please see the enclosed brochures.

Cross-cutting themes

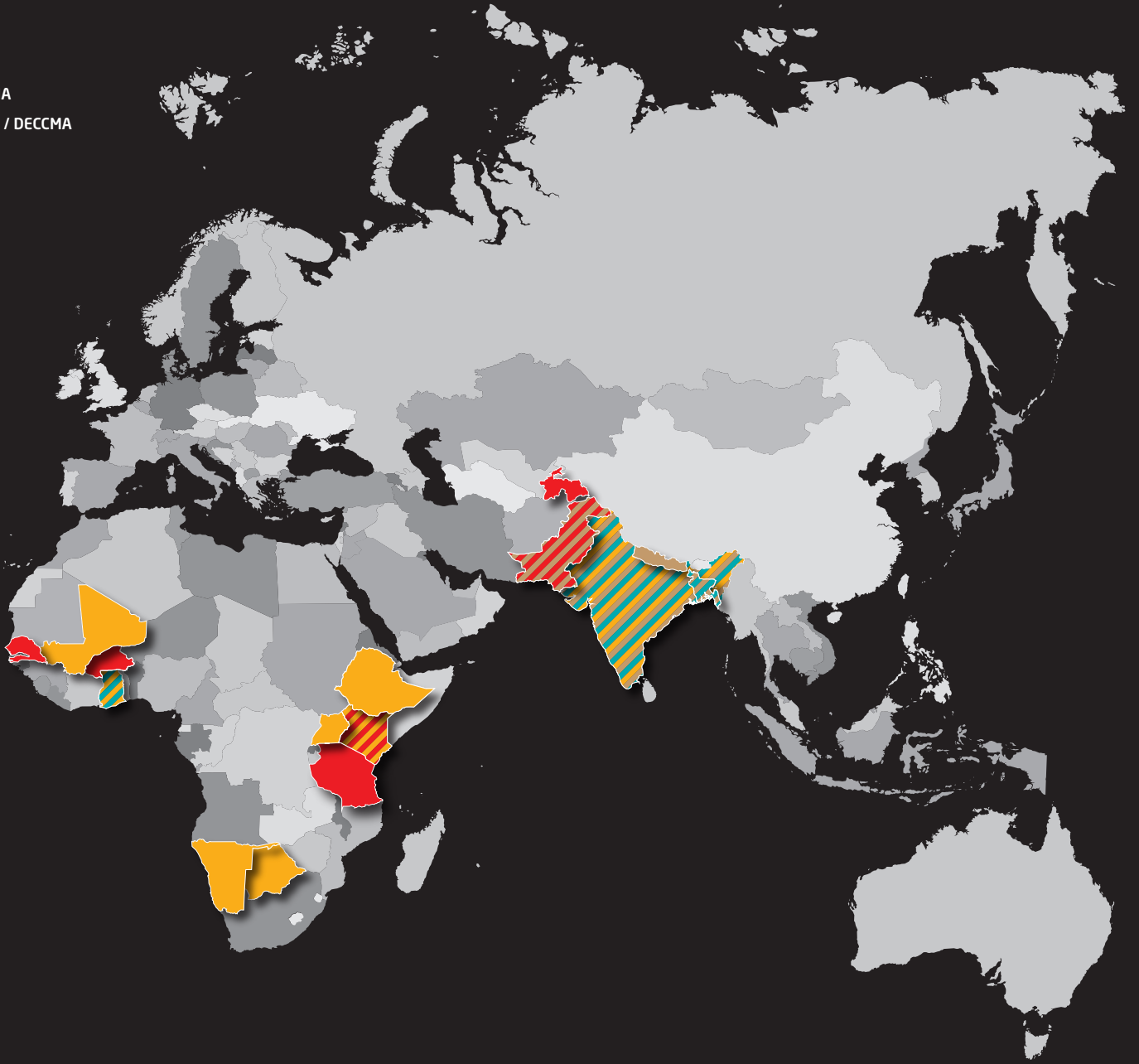
Each of the CARIIA consortia brings together institutions with a range of regional, scientific and socio-economic development expertise to explore the physical, social, economic and political dimensions of vulnerability and different adaptation options. The consortium model provides opportunities for sharing knowledge and experience across disciplines, sectors, countries, and continents. Working groups have formed to examine different crosscutting themes, for example:

1. **Gender and Equity:** CARIIA aims for innovation in gender sensitive and responsive adaptation that is community-based and has strong research uptake. At the program level, the goal is to develop a general framework to mainstream gender concerns across the four consortia. This working group collaborates on developing a common approach that meets a minimum acceptable standard for gender research across consortia.

2. **Migration:** This working group looks at the different approaches consortia are using to study migration, and the ways in which their study areas differ (e.g. urban versus rural). One theme the group will explore is linkages between remittances and migration, used as an adaptation to climate change.
3. **Climate Science:** This group was formed to share information on the approaches that each consortium is taking, such as for emissions scenarios.

Country Engagement groups have also been formed in the five countries where more than one consortium is present, to coordinate engagement activities and communications: Ghana, Kenya, Pakistan, Bangladesh and India.

-  ASSAR
-  DECCMA
-  HI-AWARE
-  PRISE
-  ASSAR / PRISE
-  HI-AWARE / PRISE
-  HI-AWARE / DECCMA
-  ASSAR / HI-AWARE / DECCMA



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