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Presented by

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**The Role and Effectiveness of Legal Framework in Addressing Climate
Change in Kwara State, Nigeria.**

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**PAN AFRICAN UNIVERSITY FOR WATER AND ENERGY
SCIENCES
(Including Climate Change)**

**The Role and Effectiveness of Legal Framework in Addressing
Climate Change in Kwara State, Nigeria**

A master's thesis submitted to the Pan African University for Water and Energy Sciences (Including Climate Change) in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the award of a Master of Science degree in Climate Change Policy.

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DECLARATION

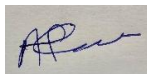
STUDENT'S DECLARATION

I, Oluwatoni Honour AFINJUOMO, hereby declare that this thesis titled “The Role and Effectiveness of Legal Framework in Addressing Climate Change in Kwara State, Nigeria” is my original work to the best of my knowledge and has not been submitted to the University or any other institute or published earlier for the award of any degree or diploma. I also declare that all the information, materials, and results from other works presented in this thesis have been duly cited and regarded according to the academic rules and ethics.

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SUPERVISOR'S DECLARATION

I, Khaldoon A. Mourad, hereby declare that I supervised the preparation of this Master thesis submitted therein by the guidelines on supervision of the Master thesis laid down by the Pan African University Institute of Water and Energy Sciences, Algeria.

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DATE: 24-03-2025

DEDICATION

To my loving parents, and Kwara State, Nigeria battling the terrific impacts of anthropogenic climate change.

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ABSTRACT

Climate change is a global menace, thus threatening economic stability and public health and disproportionately affecting developing regions such as Kwara State, Nigeria. This study critically examines the role and effectiveness of legal frameworks in mitigating climate change impacts in Kwara State. Nigeria has shown commitment to international climate agreements such as the Paris Agreement and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC); however, local implementation remains hindered due to inadequate enforcement, limited public awareness, and institutional inefficiencies. This study employs a qualitative research approach and semi-structured interviews with key stakeholders, including government agencies, private organizations, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and research institutions, to evaluate the effectiveness of existing climate-related legal policies in Kwara State. The study reveals that legal frameworks such as the Kwara State Environmental Protection Agency (KWEPA) and the National Climate Change Act provide regulatory structures for environmental governance. However, their enforcement is ineffective because of insufficient funding, lack of political will, and poor inter-agency coordination. The Agro-Climatic Resilience in Semi-Arid Landscapes (ACReSAL) and afforestation initiatives to curb environmental degradation, but weak implementation strategies and a lack of stakeholder involvement limit their success. The study further highlights the gaps between national climate policies and local realities, emphasizing the need for localized adaptation strategies considering socio-economic constraints. It recommends strengthening legal enforcement mechanisms, enhancing community participation, and integrating climate policies with sustainable development initiatives. This research contributes to the growing body of knowledge on climate governance in subnational contexts and underscores the urgency of legal reforms to ensure environmental sustainability in Nigeria.

Keywords: Climate change, legal frameworks, Kwara State, Nigeria, environmental governance, policy enforcement, international climate agreement

Oluwatoni Honour AFINJUOMO

The Role and Effectiveness of Legal Framework in Addressing Climate Change in Kwara State, Nigeria

RÉSUMÉ

Le changement climatique est une menace mondiale, menaçant la stabilité économique et la santé publique, et affectant de manière disproportionnée les régions en développement comme l'État de Kwara, au Nigéria. Cette étude examine de manière critique le rôle et l'efficacité des cadres juridiques pour atténuer les impacts du changement climatique dans l'État de Kwara. Le Nigéria a démontré son engagement envers les accords internationaux sur le climat, tels que l'Accord de Paris et la Convention-cadre des Nations Unies sur les changements climatiques (CCNUCC). Cependant, leur mise en œuvre locale reste faible en raison d'une application inadéquate, d'une sensibilisation limitée du public et d'inefficacités institutionnelles. Cette étude utilise une approche de recherche qualitative et des entretiens semi-structurés avec les principales parties prenantes, notamment des agences gouvernementales, des organisations privées, des organisations non gouvernementales (ONG) et des instituts de recherche, afin d'évaluer l'efficacité des politiques juridiques existantes liées au climat dans l'État de Kwara.

L'étude révèle que les cadres juridiques tels que l'Agence de protection de l'environnement de l'État de Kwara (KWEPA) et la loi nationale sur le changement climatique fournissent des structures réglementaires pour la gouvernance environnementale. Cependant, leur application est inefficace en raison d'un financement insuffisant, d'un manque de volonté politique et d'une mauvaise coordination interinstitutionnelle. De plus, les communautés locales sont confrontées à d'importants obstacles pour s'adapter aux politiques climatiques en raison de leur dépendance économique à des activités sensibles au climat, telles que l'agriculture et l'exploitation forestière. Les initiatives de résilience agroclimatique dans les paysages semi-arides (ACReSAL) et de reboisement visant à freiner la dégradation de l'environnement, mais la faiblesse des stratégies de mise en œuvre et le manque d'implication des parties prenantes limitent leur succès. L'étude met également en évidence les écarts entre les politiques climatiques nationales et les réalités locales, soulignant la nécessité de stratégies d'adaptation localisées tenant compte des contraintes socio-économiques. Elle recommande de renforcer les mécanismes d'application des lois, de renforcer la participation communautaire et d'intégrer les politiques climatiques aux initiatives de développement durable. En relevant ces défis, l'État de Kwara peut bâtir un cadre juridique plus résilient pour atténuer les risques climatiques et s'aligner sur les objectifs mondiaux d'action climatique. Cette recherche contribue au corpus croissant de connaissances sur la gouvernance climatique dans les

contextes infranationaux et souligne l'urgence de réformes juridiques pour garantir la durabilité environnementale au Nigéria.

Mots-clés : changement climatique, cadres juridiques, État de Kwara, Nigéria, gouvernance environnementale, application des politiques, accord international sur le climat

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ENSO - El Niño-Southern Oscillation

GHG: Greenhouse gas

WMO: World Meteorological Organization

IPCC: Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

UNFCCC: United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

PA: Paris Agreement

KWEPA: Kwara State Environmental Protection Agency

NCA: National Climate Act

NCCAP: National Climate Change Action Plan

COP: Conference of the Parties

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CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Climate change is increasingly recognized as a serious worldwide concern as the threat posed by this phenomenon consumes the biosphere globally, with little being done to protect it. According to Olaoluwa et al. (2022), the changing climate is the distortion in the climate patterns brought about by natural and artificial (otherwise called anthropogenic) changes in the composition of the Earth's atmosphere. Due to the global environmental and economic risks posed by this phenomenon, industrialized and developing countries are implementing mitigation methods against climate change (Ogunkan, 2022). Also, Eresanya et al. (2021) opined that over the last 250 years, there has been a significant increase in the amount of greenhouse gases (GHGs) in the atmosphere due to rapid industrialization (from the industrial age) and other anthropogenic activities, including biomass and the burning of fossil fuels, and the generation of aerosols. As a result, these emissions have accelerated anthropogenic climate changes, including a sharp rise in sea levels, increased frequency of hot waves, droughts, floods, and sea ice loss.

Global conventions and cooperative policymaking have been part of the attempts to combat climate change. Some of these conventions include the Paris Agreement (which has since been created to control emissions and encourage sustainable practices), the 1992 United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) (which provides a framework for global cooperation), alongside other agreements and protocols (Naser & Pearce, 2022). Irrespective of these efforts, global well-being is threatened by persistent emissions and pre-existing GHG concentrations (Adimula & Abdusalam, 2024). One of the significant controversies and disagreements from past Conferences of Parties (COPs) on climate change is how developing (less industrialized), vulnerable countries that generate fewer emissions are unequally affected by climate change (Adakayi et al., 2016). Researchers have predicted that climate change impacts would cause significant economic and humanitarian losses, putting pressure on the global healthcare system. This has been proven as

rising environmental degradation (caused by climate change) has been linked to poverty, illness, and food insecurity. These effects are particularly severe in rural and underdeveloped areas where subsistence farming is common. For example, desertification causes the loss of roughly 30 hectares of cropland every year in the Sahel region of Nigeria (Alalade et al., 2018). Likewise, diseases such as measles, malaria, and diarrhoea have been linked to rising temperatures and climate extremes.

In Nigeria, rising sea levels, unpredictable rainfall, and extreme weather events are some of the serious climate-related issues plaguing the country. The country's social stability, economic growth, and food security are all at risk from these events. A primary reason could be that Nigeria's climate action plans have not been effective enough due to implementation challenges, even though it is a signatory to international agreements such as the Paris Agreement and the UNFCCC (Naser & Pearce, 2022). Although establishing legal frameworks such as the Nigeria Climate Change Policy and the Nigeria Climate Act (2021) could be seen as progress, their effectiveness in achieving meaningful and equitable outcomes remains open to critical inquiry (Oniga, 2023). Agriculture, a cornerstone of Nigeria's economy, has been significantly affected by climate variability. In 2020, GHG emissions from the agricultural sector were approximately 322,000 kilotons of CO₂ equivalent, with livestock contributing 69.2%. Projections suggest that agricultural emissions could rise by 94% by 2050 compared to 2010 (Raimi et al., 2021). Although Nigeria possesses vast arable land, the nation imported N3.35 trillion worth of food between 2016 and 2019, while agricultural exports totalled only N803 billion. Weather variability further threatens agricultural productivity, increasing reliance on imports and exacerbating trade deficits. Beyond agriculture, other sectors in Nigeria are also highly climate-sensitive. For instance, the forestry sector is threatened by illegal logging and deforestation, which exacerbate carbon emissions and biodiversity loss. Also, urban areas face challenges from extreme heat and flooding, which strain infrastructure and disrupt livelihoods (Okeke & Anushiem, 2018). Furthermore, the decreasing freshwater supply brought on by irregular rainfall and usage significantly strains the water industry.

Over time, most climate change research has been sector-specific, concentrating primarily on agriculture or renewable energy sources, despite Nigeria's vulnerabilities (Kehinde & Abifarin, 2022). Researchers have not treated the nation's legal structures for climate adaptation and mitigation in detail. To close this gap, this study evaluates how well Nigeria's

legislative tools - such as the Nigeria Climate Act mitigate climate change and improve adaptive capacity. This study takes a holistic approach to assessing institutional, social, and structural variables (Vardy et al., 2017) using frameworks like those created by the UNFCCC and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).

Additionally, this study identifies weaknesses in the current framework and offers suggestions to improve the nation's climate resilience. Finally, this study emphasizes the urgency to create strong legal and policy frameworks to handle present and upcoming issues, given that climate change threatens Nigeria's development objectives (Banso et al., 2023).

1.2 Problem Statement

Climate change is now widely considered a remarkable threat to public health, economy, and ecosystems worldwide, particularly in developing countries like Nigeria. Kwara State (a state in Nigeria) has been deeply impacted by climate change, including altered weather patterns, increased flooding, and agricultural disruptions (Alalade et al., 2018). A significant gap identified is the uncertainty in the effectiveness of the various legal frameworks in place to handle environmental issues and mitigate the effects of climate change. Several studies have indicated that limited public awareness, inadequate budget, and poor enforcement limit the usefulness of these legal mechanisms (Eresanya et al., 2021).

Another gap identified is the vacuum between national policy and local reality, leaving local communities to handle climate-related challenges without adequate guidance or legal support (Adimula & Abdusalam, 2024). For these reasons, this thesis objectively examines the effectiveness and operation of Kwara State's legal frameworks to identify specific weaknesses and barriers that prevent successful climate action. This study seeks to create a stronger legal framework that can effectively handle the region's pressing climate issues by evaluating existing laws and their application.

1.3 Goal

The primary objective of this thesis is to investigate how well legal frameworks in Kwara State, Nigeria, mitigate climate change.

1.4 Specific Objectives

- Identify the role of the existing legal framework in addressing climate change in Kwara State.
- Evaluate the effectiveness of laws and policies designed to address climate change in Kwara State, Nigeria.
- Identify the key challenges government agencies and stakeholders face in enforcing climate-related laws in Kwara State.
- Recommend ways to make the existing legal frameworks more effective in tackling climate change in the Kwara State, Nigeria.

1.5 Research Questions and The Working Hypothesis

- How effective are the existing laws and policies in combating climate change in Kwara State? This question explores the current legal frameworks and their relevance to climate change issues.
- What challenges do authorities encounter when implementing climate change laws in Kwara State? This question seeks to identify specific barriers to effectively enforcing existing legal provisions.
- What improvements can be made to enhance the effectiveness of legal frameworks for climate change in Kwara State? This question focuses on formulating actionable recommendations for better climate governance.

Working Hypothesis

- Existing laws and policies are not effective in combating climate change in Kwara State
- Governing authorities do not encounter challenges in implementing climate change laws and policies in Kwara State.
- There has been no significant improvement in the effectiveness of the legal framework in Kwara State.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Overview of Climate Change and Its Impacts

According to the IPCC 2005, the evidence for climate change is undeniable, such as rising sea levels, glaciers shrinking, shifting precipitation patterns, and global temperatures increasing. The IPCC projects indicated that the rate of current greenhouse gas emissions will likely cause average global temperatures to rise by 0.2°C per decade, potentially exceeding the critical 2°C threshold above pre-industrial levels by 2050 (Gao et al., 2017). The reality of climate change has been underscored by catastrophic events such as Super Typhoon Haiyan, which devastated the Philippines; this unprecedented storm, which is the strongest ever to make landfall, destroyed infrastructure, including severed communication lines, and plunged entire provinces into darkness. In addition, with wind speeds reaching 195 mph and gusts of up to 235 mph, Haiyan unleashed 15-foot-high storm surges, obliterating towns and displacing ships onto land. The disaster affected 11.8 million people, displaced 920,000, injured over 3,850, and left at least 77 missing, according to U.N. reports (Goreau, 2024). According to Sadeghi et al. (2025), the California fire outbreak in Los Angeles was a recent demonstration of climate change's effect. The wildfire outbreaks in southern California, notably the Palisades and the Eaton fire, were caused by different factors, such as extreme, prolonged dry weather due to a lack of rain. Prolonged droughts and arid weather create environments prone to wildfire outbreaks because vegetation becomes dry and more flammable. About 14,000 structures were destroyed during the fire outbreak, leaving thousands of people homeless. Aside from the extreme weather conditions that facilitated the fire outbreak, it was also seen that there has been a dearth of policies that foster adequate funding for firefighters in the state. Climate change poses a grave threat to alleviate poverty efforts and risks reversing decades of development progress (Falkner, 2016). Its adverse impacts are disproportionately felt by poorer communities and nations, which rely heavily on natural resources and have limited capacity to adapt to climate variability and extreme weather. Protecting and restoring critical ecosystems can bolster community resilience, sustain livelihoods dependent on ecosystem services, and support adaptation efforts.

Transitioning to low-carbon economies can mitigate greenhouse gas emissions, improve public health, create green jobs, and enhance overall well-being. Unfortunately, anthropogenic activities (human actions) can cause an irreparable buildup of greenhouse gases, thus resulting in global warming. However, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) opined that to achieve a drastic reduction in the emission of greenhouse gases, there must be a prolonged action to this effect for 10–15 years to ensure the implementation of these actions that foster the reduction of climate change impacts and at relatively low cost (OECD, 2015).

2.1.1 Climate System

Amidst the gospel about fighting climate change, the climate is a complex, interactive system comprising the atmosphere, snow and ice, oceans, other water bodies, and living organisms. Various external factors influence the internal dynamics of the climate system, including natural events like volcanic eruptions and solar radiation, as well as human-induced changes to the atmosphere's composition (Singh & Singh, 2017). In addition, the Sun is the primary source of energy driving the entire climate system. It thus alters the Earth's radiation balance by modifying the amount of incoming solar radiation, changing the proportion of solar radiation reflected into space (known as "albedo"), and affecting the emission of long-wave radiation from Earth back into space. The climate system responds to these changes directly and indirectly through various feedback mechanisms (Turnheim et al., 2015). In addition, global warming and global cooling refer to global average surface temperature changes. However, global warming is often misunderstood as uniform warming across the planet. An increase in the global average temperature can alter atmospheric circulation patterns, causing some regions to warm more, others less, and some even to cool. Despite its inaccuracy, "global warming" is frequently used in media and public discourse to describe climate change, encompassing much more than just a warming trend. For this reason, "global warming" is not an entirely accurate descriptor of the broader climate change phenomenon (Adakayi et al., 2016).

2.1.2 Climate and Weather

According to the IPCC 2001, weather refers to the condition of the atmosphere at a particular time and location, including temperature, cloud cover, humidity, precipitation, and wind. Phenomena like thunderstorms, tornadoes, and monsoons are weather components in certain regions during specific seasons. In contrast, climate describes the long-term patterns of weather that characterize a region. For instance, the climate of the New York metropolitan area is temperate, featuring evenly distributed rainfall throughout the year, cold winters, and hot summers (Monteiro et al., 2022).

2.1.3 Climate and Variability

It is also important to note that climate variability refers to fluctuations in the typical state of the climate across different timeframes and locations beyond isolated weather events. These variations can arise from internal natural processes within the climate system or external influences, whether natural or human-induced (anthropogenic). Global climate change denotes a lasting mutation in either its variability or average state of the climate, persisting for decades or longer (Watson, 2016). This encompasses shifts in Earth's average weather conditions, such as changes in global temperatures, as well as variations in the frequency of extreme weather events like heatwaves, droughts, floods, and storms. Notably, changes in specific weather events may significantly impact overall climate variability. Climate change can occur naturally due to factors like changes in solar energy or Earth's orbital patterns (natural climate forcing). Alternatively, it can result from persistent human-driven influences, such as increased greenhouse gas emissions, sulfate aerosols or black carbon released into the atmosphere, or changes in land use (von der Heydt et al., 2021). In addition to discussing climate and variability, global climate patterns are also affected by the El Nio and La Nina, which are the opposite phases of the El Nio-Southern Oscillation (ENSO) cycle. The El Nino is seen as the warmer surface temperature above average Pacific Sea temperature and could be responsible for droughts and wildfire outbreaks. In comparison, La Nino has a cooler surface temperature than the Pacific Sea, thus resulting in more wet conditions. The two opposite phases of the sea temperatures contribute to the climate variabilities, as seen in the disrupted weather patterns, atmospheric circulations, and precipitations (Banso et al., 2023).

2.1.4 Natural Impacts of Climate Change

The impacts of climate change are already visible across the globe, with rising temperatures, melting polar ice caps, increasing sea levels, and expanding desertification. In Europe, winters have become progressively wetter, illustrating the regional variations in climate shifts. One striking example is Mount Kilimanjaro in Tanzania, where snow cover has steadily diminished due to global warming. Scientists predict that within the next 50 years, the iconic peak may lose its snow entirely (Banso et al., 2023). The frequency of natural disasters has also escalated significantly; for instance, between 1950 and 1960, only 13 significant disasters were recorded worldwide, but this number surged to 72 from 1990 to 1998. These observable effects of climate change are clear indicators of a growing crisis, with future impacts likely to become even more widespread and severe. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has provided forecasts highlighting the potential consequences of climate change by the end of the 21st century. The amount of greenhouse gas emissions and atmospheric chemical and physical processes will determine whether global temperatures increase by 1.1°C or 6.4°C (IPCC, 2023). Additionally, precipitation patterns will differ, with some areas seeing more rainfall and others becoming drier. This will make problems with water availability and agriculture even more difficult. The projection of sea levels is to rise by 18 to 59 centimeters during this century, majorly due to the thermal expansion of seawater as it warms and the melting of glaciers and polar ice sheets. However, our limited knowledge of ice sheet dynamics makes these estimates more questionable, especially in Greenland and Antarctica (Hickmann et al., 2021). The regional effects of sea level rise may be more severe in certain places than these global averages indicate. There will also likely be a weakening of the Gulf Stream, which carries warm water from the Caribbean to Europe. Even though rapid changes to this current are not considered in traditional climate models, this drop may result in temperatures in northwest Europe rising less sharply than in other places. According to Allison et al. (2021), these interrelated events highlight climate change's complexity and wide-ranging repercussions, necessitating immediate and concerted global action to lessen its effects.

2.1.5 Climate Change Impacts on the Economy

Changes in the global climate have profound impacts on both natural ecosystems and economic systems. Even slight increases in average annual temperatures can significantly affect regional ecology and biological diversity. Biodiversity, essential for ecosystem stability, is crucial in supporting human health. The economic consequences of climate-related phenomena such as droughts, floods, and other extreme events are projected to be substantial. According to some estimates, the costs associated with these effects could range from 5% to 20% of global income. While the IPCC has yet to provide definitive cost estimates for the full consequences of climate change, it has evaluated the economic implications of mitigation efforts (Bell et al., 2018). Climate policies are closely tied to realizing these objectives; for instance, in regions affected by more severe droughts due to climate change, efforts to eradicate poverty and hunger are likely to face significant setbacks. Similarly, the expansion of malaria to new regions due to changing climatic conditions will hinder progress in combating this and other diseases. Furthermore, the adverse effects of climate change on biodiversity undermine environmental sustainability, making it even more challenging to achieve the SDGs (Alalade et al., 2018).

2.1.6 Climate Change Impacts on Health

Global climate change impacts human health through complex, multi-faceted pathways that vary in scale, intensity, and timing. These effects will differ geographically, depending on environmental and topographical factors as well as the vulnerability of local populations. While some impacts may be positive, scientific studies predict that most will be negative. This is unsurprising, as climate change disrupts or alters many natural ecological and physical systems fundamental to Earth's life support mechanisms. Through their activities, humans contribute to shifts in these systems, altering the conditions of life on the planet (Hamidi, 2022). Direct health impacts include exposure to extreme weather events such as heatwaves, severe colds, floods, cyclones, storm surges, and droughts. Climate change is also linked to increased levels of air pollutants and allergens, such as spores and molds. While milder winters may reduce mortality during colder months, this benefit is offset by higher summer mortality due to more frequent and intense heat waves. In regions with high excess winter mortality, like the United Kingdom, the benefits of milder winters may sometimes outweigh

the adverse effects (Hermwille et al., 2017). However, uncertainties remain regarding the extent and distribution of extreme weather events as climate change progresses.

Indirectly, climate change will influence the spread of infectious diseases, particularly those transmitted through water, food, and vectors like mosquitoes. These effects will vary based on geography and population vulnerability, but the long-term indirect impacts are likely to surpass the magnitude of direct impacts (Hickmann et al., 2021). For example, the distribution and abundance of vector organisms are influenced by climatic factors such as temperature, precipitation, humidity, surface water, and biological factors like vegetation, predators, and human interventions. Additionally, anthropogenic activities have been attributed to alter the atmospheric heat balance, thus potentially accelerating stratospheric cooling. This persistent stratosphere cooling could prolong ozone depletion even after reduced chlorine and bromine emissions. This scenario is of significant health risks, including increased rates of skin cancer in fair-skinned populations, cataracts, and potential immune suppression (Kohnert, 2024). These cumulative effects highlight how climate change interactions with atmospheric and ecological systems have vital implications for human health.

2.1.7 Climate Change Impacts within the Nigeria Context

Climate change is a significant risk to global sustainability, and a developing country like Nigeria, due to its vulnerability and limited resources, would be disproportionately affected. Legal frameworks are essential to the fight against climate change because they guide the creation of policies, promote environmental preservation, and support sustainable development (Okeke & Anushiem, 2018). This literature review investigates the effectiveness of Nigerian legal frameworks in mitigating the impacts of and adapting to climate change. The body of research on Nigeria's participation in the UNFCCC and other global climate accords stresses the nation's significance in the Global South's efforts to negotiate equity and climate justice. Previous studies have examined how national policies and strategies have been adapted to UNFCCC obligations, highlighting advancements and enduring difficulties. Researchers have also examined how Nigeria's social and environmental conditions have been affected by climate change, highlighting the burden that vulnerable populations bear, especially in the aspect of agriculture (David Raj et al., 2024). According to Weiskopf et al. (2020), Nigeria has been reported to flare 2.5 million cubic feet of gas per day, more than any other nation globally. This equates to 40% of the gas consumed throughout Africa. Nigeria's gas flaring is responsible for more global warming than all of Sub-Saharan Africa's combined

emissions due to the methane and CO₂ it contains. A 2007 World Bank-commissioned study states that approximately one-sixth of global gas flaring, which releases 400 million tons of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere, originates in Nigeria. Nonetheless, the World Bank survey identified Nigeria and fifteen other oil-producing nations as having gradually decreased gas flaring between 1995 and 2006 (Falkner, 2016). International climate change regimes, including the UNFCCC, the Kyoto Protocol, and the Paris Agreement, have evolved dramatically in response to the adverse effects of climate change. The ultimate goal of the UNFCCC, which was signed in 1992, is to stabilize greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system within a timeframe that allows people and the planet to adapt and develop sustainability. Despite its admirable goals, the UNFCCC does not set GHG emission targets (Carter et al., 2015). Many developing nations are experiencing the devastating effects of climate change, and Nigeria is not left out. Robust legislative and policy frameworks are required to address these climate-related hazards and guide adaptation and mitigation efforts. One study by Gusmão Caiado et al. (2018) empirically analyzes Nigeria's present legal system, showing that the country's strategy for combating climate change has advantages and disadvantages. In this light, the National Environmental Policy of 2016 and the National Climate Change Policy of 2021 have provided a comprehensive framework for tackling environmental concerns, including climate change adaptation and mitigation in Nigeria. Additionally, Nigeria, among other countries, has submitted its intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC) in 2015 as part of the Paris Agreement, including precise goals for improving climate resilience and reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Climate change, as defined by the IPCC in 2007, is a change in the climate with distinct and observable variations. These climate variables fluctuate throughout ten years and are influenced by the environment's mean. How long it takes for the changes to become noticeable is less significant than the extent of the deviation from the usual and its impact on the environment.

2.2 Brief History of International Agreements on Climate Change

In June 1988, the World Conference on the Changing Atmosphere in Toronto marked the first occasion where politicians and scientists recognized that humanity was engaging in an unintentional, uncontrolled global experiment with potentially catastrophic consequences, second only to a nuclear war (Adenle et al., 2015). The conference proposed a goal to reduce

carbon dioxide emissions by 20% by 2005. This led to the release of the First Assessment Report by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), emphasizing the growing concentration of anthropogenic greenhouse gases in the atmosphere (Monteiro et al., 2022). At the first Conference of the Parties (COP) in 1995, held in Canada, it became evident that industrialized nations needed binding commitments to curtail emissions. Subsequently, in December 1997, approximately 150 countries signed the Kyoto Protocol, committing 38 industrialized nations (Annex 1 countries) to an average reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by 5.2% below 1990 levels between 2008 and 2012. In December 2007, the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Bali, Indonesia, gathered representatives from over 180 nations alongside observers from intergovernmental and nongovernmental organizations (Abbass et al., 2022).

2.2.1 International Law and Climate Change

The United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) has discussed the place of international law and its relevance to climate change. It notes that customary law forbids member states from permitting actions on its soil that cause grave harm to third parties (Ofoezie et al., 2022). The climate policy, which is part of a larger body of international law, must be interpreted in the context of other member states. Since climate change is a worldwide issue that affects more than just Nigeria, efforts to mitigate it must be coordinated among all nations (Thomas, 2017). Furthermore, because it is a transboundary issue, the burden may also fall on other nations that are not necessarily involved in or the beneficiaries of the activities causing climate change. For example, when developed countries emit pollutants or effluents, the developing countries suffer adverse effects on the climate due to these emissions, even though they receive no benefit from the activities that cause the pollution (Uche & Azoro-Amadi, 2024). Nigeria is a party to both the Kyoto and the Montreal Protocols, under which all parties committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and actively phasing out all substances that deplete the ozone layer by implementing national programs based on well-informed policy decisions.

2.2.2 The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

During the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) in Rio de Janeiro, also called the Earth Summit, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) was made available for signature (Elkahwagy et al., 2017). The Convention was created to control climate change on a global scale. The Convention also stipulates that developed nations must give developing nations financial support to fulfill their commitments under the Convention (Vasiliev, 2021). Countries that have concentrated on offering financial and technological support to developing nations were expressed qualitatively, making it challenging to assess how well they are being implemented. Furthermore, it should be noted that the UNFCCC does not specify any reduction targets. The industrialized countries pledge in the Convention to bring their greenhouse gas emissions down to levels seen in 1990, but there is no deadline for doing so. This provision may not force the industrialized nations to act quickly to realize the goals of the Convention (Vardy et al., 2017).

2.2.3 Kyoto Protocol to the UNFCCC

For the industrialized and transitional nations, this Protocol establishes legally binding numerical targets for the limitation and reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, including carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, hydro-fluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons, and sulfur hexafluoride, between 2008 and 2012.⁶⁶ The developing nations must report on their emissions, but no specific numerical emissions reduction targets have been set. For the Protocol to come into effect, it needs to be ratified by 55 Parties ⁶⁷ to the Convention, which are industrialized nations that collectively contributed to at least 55% of Annex I countries' total carbon dioxide emissions in 1990 (Elkahwagy et al., 2017).

2.3 Legal Frameworks for Climate Change in Nigeria

The Nigerian Constitution, the National Environmental Standards and Regulations Enforcement Agency Act 2007 (NESREA Act), the Environmental Impact Assessment Act (EIA Act), the National Oil Spill Detection and Response Agency Act 2005 (NOSDRA Act), and other laws are among the general environmental regulations in Nigeria (Kehinde &

Abifarin, 2022). The basis of environmental policy in Nigeria can be found in Section 20 of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, which contains provisions for protecting and improving the environment and safeguarding Nigeria's water, air, land, forest, and wildlife (Muluneh, 2021). The agency is responsible for enforcing compliance with environmental laws, regulations, policies, rules, and recommendations. NESREA also ensures the responsibility for biodiversity conservation, sustainable development, and technological innovation, and environmental development and protection. The National Environmental Protection (NEP) oversees the management of solid and hazardous waste regulations, and the NEP (Pollution Abatement in Industries and Facilities Generating Waste) Regulations are still in force under the NESREA Act (Kugler & Moraga Sariago, 2016).

2.3.1 Legal Frameworks for Climate Change Governance

On a global scale, legal frameworks are quite important for guiding countries toward resilient and sustainable approaches to combating climate change. In particular, strong legal frameworks are essential for the world to implement climate policies, set emission reduction goals, and adapt to the repercussions of a changing climate (Kehinde & Abifarin, 2022). They provide countries with the framework and resources required to accomplish their climate action goals. Developed economies have been at the forefront of enacting comprehensive climate laws and regulations to address the problems caused by global warming because of their established legal systems and institutional capabilities (Ojo, 2023). In contrast, establishing robust legal frameworks to combat climate change has unique challenges for underdeveloped countries. Some major issues with establishing legal frameworks in underdeveloped countries that have been identified include capacity constraints, conflicting development goals, and a lack of funding making it difficult to implement and enforce climate laws in these countries. Moreover, despite these challenges, emerging markets have shown a rising understanding of the role that legal frameworks play in addressing climate change, as seen by the various steps being taken by countries in Asia, Latin America, and Africa to strengthen their legal systems through international climate agreements (Okeke & Anushiem, 2018). Thus, it is impossible to overestimate the importance of legal frameworks in climate governance - particularly in Africa, the continent identified as being the most susceptible to the impacts of climate change. African countries are characterized by a large rural population that is vulnerable to climate-related disasters, a high reliance on natural resources, a rich

biodiversity, and an increasing awareness of the need for robust legislative frameworks to mitigate and adapt to climate change.

To address climate change issues, significant strides have been made by Nigeria in developing the Climate Change Act and the National Climate Change Policy, among other legislative frameworks (Kumar, 2021). These legislative tools define adaptation and mitigation strategies which include objectives, and institutional frameworks for climate governance, thereby laying the groundwork for climate action. Despite these efforts, Nigeria, like many other African countries, faces challenges in implementing, enforcing, and mobilizing resources for its climate change legal frameworks. One such reason is the dispersed structure of governance institutions, institutional incapacity, and financial constraints, all of which severely impede the objectives outlined in climate laws and policies (Kumar et al., 2021). Other reasons include: a lack of oversight mechanisms, a lack of collaboration among government agencies, and the diverse reform initiatives of key industries like energy, agriculture, and transportation which further impede the attainment of sustainable development goals. Notwithstanding, Nigeria has demonstrated its commitment to addressing climate change by developing legislative and policy frameworks. Some of the key pillars of Nigeria's climate governance system are the National Climate Change Policy (2012) and the Climate Change Act (2017), which provide strategies for adaptation, mitigation, and resilience-building (Okeke, 2024). The integration of climate issues into sectoral policies, development planning, and institutional structures is quite important and is also emphasized by the aforementioned legislative frameworks. However, the effectiveness of these legal frameworks in achieving noticeable outcomes is still debatable.

2.3.2 Effectiveness of the Paris Agreement in Nigeria

Nigeria, which is one of the major producers and consumers of fossil fuels in Africa, has committed to stabilizing its greenhouse gas emissions to reduce its impact on the global climate system. The country faces significant environmental challenges including desertification in the northern regions; deforestation and flooding along river basins in the middle belt and Niger Delta coastline; and hydrocarbon pollution in the oil-rich Niger Delta. These difficulties are made worse by a lack of initiatives to address the impact of climate change and a lack of adaptability, poor economic growth, and inadequate infrastructure (Filho et al., 2019). Nigeria as a nation over the years has been prone to flash floods, rising

temperatures, and unpredictable weather patterns, and all of this over time has a substantial impact on agriculture, which employs more than 70% of the workforce. According to Muluneh. (2021), given its reliance on natural resources, high rates of poverty, and expanding population, Nigeria which is the most populous country in Africa relies more on its natural resources which are particularly vulnerable to these climate threats such as water scarcity, decreased agricultural output, health issues, ecosystem degradation, species extinction, increased flooding, and pest and disease outbreaks. These aggregate impacts severely strain economic development and progress, resulting in problems like hunger, a decline in GDP, and a more vulnerable society as a whole.

As highlighted by Stoddard et al. (2021), Nigeria has taken some steps towards aligning its policies with the Paris Agreement. This is evident in the development of the National Climate Change Policy and its improved National Determined Contribution in 2021 which are geared towards the reduction of greenhouse gases by 20%. In addition to these, Nigeria has also established the Renewable Energy Master Plan, the National Adaptation Strategy, and the Plan of Action on Climate Change (NASPA-CCN) alongside the Green Bond program which is channeled towards climate change mitigation and adaptation. Despite the establishment of these frameworks, there is a gap in the enforcement of these policies which is attributed to limited institutional capacity, weak frameworks, and a wide disconnect between the policy formulation and implementation at sub-national levels. According to Tiwari et al. (2024), the government has also set up initiatives towards promoting renewable energy and enhancing energy efficiency such as the Solar Power Naija initiative and programs to reduce gas flaring in the country however, the progress in the reduction of greenhouse gases has been quite slow. Furthermore, Singh & Singh. (2017) also argued that these greenhouse gases, which are produced by unrestrained resource consumption, a strong reliance on fossil fuels, deforestation, fast urbanization, and environmental degradation in Nigeria are a result of poor institutional policies. The development of carbon capture and storage technology is one example of the inventive strategies needed to reduce greenhouse gas concentrations and reach the goal of carbon neutrality which is the agenda of the Paris Agreement. It is important to adopt resource-efficient paradigms and move away from fossil fuels to renewable energy sources (Tiwari et al., 2024). According to Olujobi & Odogbo. (2024), this emphasizes how crucial it is to evaluate how ready Nigeria, as well as other stakeholders, are to fulfill their climate pledges under the Paris Agreement. In addition to being ambitious, these evaluations guarantee that the goals are feasible and in line with international climate goals.

2.3.3 Effectiveness of Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change in Nigeria

Nigeria's position on climate change was significantly shaped by the IPCC between 2018 and 2024. For instance, Nigeria's climate policies, adaptation plans, and mitigation initiatives have been greatly impacted by the IPCC's papers and recommendations as a preeminent international authority for evaluating climate research (Ikehi et al., 2022). The Sixth Assessment Report (AR6) was released between 2021 and 2023 which is one of the IPCC's most significant effects on Nigeria. Nigeria and Sub-Saharan Africa (in entirety) are particularly vulnerable to climate extremes like droughts, floods, and desertification, according to a thorough analysis by (IPCC, 2023). As regards the net-zero target, Nigeria pledged to achieve net-zero emissions by 2060 by focusing on resilience in important sectors like agriculture, water resources, and urban infrastructure. These insights were crucial in the development of Nigeria's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) under the Paris Agreement (Dsilva et al., 2024).

Additionally, the IPCC's focus on evidence-based policymaking has made it easier to create Nigeria's National Adaptation Plan (NAP). The Nigerian NAP addresses the crucial effects of desertification in its northern regions by outlining strategic measures to improve agricultural resilience through the use of drought-resistant crops and sustainable farming techniques (Okeke, 2024). The research has also enhanced water management strategies which have lessened the impact of irregular rainfall patterns and guarantee water security in both urban and rural regions. As a result, Nigeria is now better equipped to handle climate concerns thanks to IPCC-supported capacity-building activities (Mohammed et al., 2024). Also, through training programs, workshops, and cooperative projects, Nigerian policymakers and academics have developed technical proficiency in greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory reporting and climate risk assessment. Nigerian scientists, by attending the IPCC-led expert meetings have been able to bridge the gap between national policy demands and international climate research by contributing local perspectives to global climate assessments (Chasek & Downie, 2020). However, several obstacles still affect the IPCC's effectiveness in Nigeria. For example, the execution of extensive adaptation and mitigation initiatives is still significantly hampered by financial limitations. Sea level rise, for example, poses a threat to coastal communities like Lagos and while IPCC reports have emphasized the need for coastal defences, progress in these vital sectors has been severely hindered by a lack of finance

(Adenle et al., 2015). Translating IPCC data from around the world into policies that are relevant to a certain region has also proven challenging, especially in rural areas where access to localized data and research infrastructure is restricted.

According to Uche & Azoro-Amadi. (2024), this disparity emphasizes the necessity of more funding for regional climate research and the creation of context-specific adaptation plans. Over time Nigeria's agriculture industry has profited greatly from the IPCC's suggestions. Due to the IPCC's findings on the dangers to food security posed by climate change, this has prompted the development of initiatives to support climate-resilient crop varieties and sustainable agricultural methods. Elum & Momodu. (2017) opined that these initiatives seek to increase productivity and provide food stability in the face of growing climate variability. The IPCC's emphasis on coastal resilience has also influenced urban policies, thus resulting in the adoption of measures to protect densely populated regions from climate-related risks like flooding. However, due to financial and technical difficulties, the progress has been inconsistent (Monteiro et al., 2022). A solution could be improving collaborations between Nigerian organizations and global climate organizations which can help better translate IPCC results into practical actions. Also, overcoming funding constraints requires increasing financial investments in climate adaptation projects, especially through global climate finance instruments like the Green Climate Fund (GCF). Ogbowuokara et al. (2023), emphasized that encouraging community involvement and increasing public knowledge of climate change can guarantee grassroots support for national climate measures, increasing the effectiveness and sustainability of adaptation efforts.

2.4 Kwara State's Local Policy on Environment and Climate Change

Kwara State which is situated in the North-Central of Nigeria faces environmental challenges such as land degradation, deforestation, and climate variability. Due to this, the state has developed some policies and initiatives that are aimed at protecting the environment and climate change mitigation. Despite the establishment of these policies and initiatives, their effectiveness remains a subject of concern as implementation gaps, funding constraints, and enforcement issues persist.

2.4.1 Kwara State Environmental Protection Agency (KWEPA)

The Kwara State Environmental Protection Agency (KWEPA) was established under the Kwara State Environmental Protection Agency Law to manage and regulate environmental-related issues within the state. KWEPA is charged with the responsibility of formulating and enforcing policies related to environmental protection, waste management, and ecological balance. Its harmonies environmental activities engage in public environmental campaigns and provide advice to local governments on environmental issues such as floods and erosion control; however, this agency is not void of challenges that hinder its effectiveness. According to Aderinoye-Abdulwahab & Abdulbaki. (2021), one of the major issues the agency faces is inadequate funding thus limiting the agency's ability to enforce environmental laws and engage in routine inspections.

Studies have attested that although the agency can prosecute offenders and ensure compliance with environmental laws, illegal activities such as improper waste disposal have been on the rise due to weak enforcement mechanisms. Furthermore, poor inter-agency collaboration and limited manpower have adverse effects on KWEPA's ability to function optimally. The agency's response has been more reactive than proactive; this is seen when the agency only responds to addressing environmental crises after they have escalated rather than preventing them beforehand. As highlighted by Amin et al. (2023) , environmental degradation continues to rise in Kwara State due to inconsistent enforcement of these policies.

2.4.2 Forest Conservation Initiatives

Kwara State imposed a temporary ban on all forest activities in March 2020 except on lands that are for farming. This law was to combat deforestation, rapid loss of forest cover, and production of charcoal, and ensure re-afforestation in response to the effects of climate change. According to Ganiyu et al. (2020), forest loss exacerbates the increase in carbon emissions, loss of biodiversity, and makes communities more vulnerable to climate-related disasters like flooding and desertification. Despite the well-intended government interventions, the short-term ban and the lack of a comprehensive long-term conservation strategy limit the effectiveness. Kwara State is impacted by economic pressures as many residents engage in logging and charcoal production, which is their major means of livelihood (Oluwaseun, 2022).

The effectiveness of forest policies will remain weak in the State unless there is an alternative to economic opportunities. In addition, the non-involvement of local communities in Kwara State in the formulation and implementation of forest policies is another challenge that affects the positive impacts of forest initiatives. Forest conservation policies require participatory approaches that engage local communities in sustainable practices (Babalola & Jegede, 2020). The government's failure to integrate local communities into the system and also the non-provision of incentives for sustainable land use have weakened the effectiveness of forest conservation initiatives in Kwara State.

2.4.3 Agro-Climatic Resilience in Semi-Arid Landscapes (ACReSAL) Project

Kwara State is one of the participants in the Agro-Climatic Resilience in Semi-Arid Landscapes (ACReSAL) project, a World Bank-financed initiative that aims to combat land degradation and build climate resilience in Nigeria's semi-arid regions (Adamaagashi et al., 2023). The project focuses on improved agricultural practices and productivity, sustainable landscape management, and better adaptation strategies for climate variability. Despite that ACReSAL provides an opportunity for environmental sustainability, its success in Kwara State is subject to effective implementation, stakeholder engagement, and policy integration. One of the major challenges in climate adaptation programs in Nigeria, including ACReSAL, is the gap in policy design and implementation. Due to a lack of proper oversight and accountability, there is mismanagement of funds allocated for climate resilience projects, thus leading to suboptimal outcomes (Oluwaseun, 2022).

Moreover, the effectiveness of ACReSAL in Kwara State depends on the level of awareness and participation among local farmers and land users. Ganiyu et al. (2020) affirms that many farmers in Kwara State lack proper knowledge of climate adaptation techniques and face financial constraints that prevent them from adopting sustainable practices. In regions where climate adaptation programs have been successful, community-based approaches and knowledge-sharing networks have played a crucial role in ensuring sustainability.

2.5 The Role of Local Governance in Climate Action

In 2015, international development policy offered a united view of cities and urban areas as crucial sites for climate change action. For the first time, the 2015 Sustainable Development Goals include an explicit urban target, marking a dramatic shift in sustainable development

toward a pro-urban policy consensus (Watson, 2016). The Paris Climate Action Agreement of 2015 highlights the importance of subnational implementation. Sequel to buttressing the role of local governance in climate action, the Climate Summit for Local Leaders, a series of side events organized by former New York City Mayor Mike Bloomberg, the Secretary General's Special Envoy for Cities and Climate Change, was held alongside the Agreement by Anne Hidalgo, the mayor of Paris, and Ignazio Marino, the mayor of Rome (Kihlgren Grandi, 2020). These programs are predicated on the idea that cities and metropolitan areas may assist in closing the gap between the total national intended contributions that were agreed upon in Paris and the actual emissions reductions required to limit temperature changes to 1.5 degrees. In a consultation process that took place in Quito in October 2016 at the III United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development, the United Nations ensured a new urban agenda, a global agenda that tackles the opportunities and challenges of urbanization (Ruddick et al., 2018). The most notable aspect of discussions around the new urban agenda is the unwavering rejection of viewpoints that portray urbanization as a problem that must be managed in favour of those that highlight the possibilities for sustainable living in a more urban future. These days, shifts toward sustainability are inextricably linked to the opportunities for action that have been made available in metropolitan settings. At the same time, as Chu et al. (2017) anticipated, growing interest in urban areas illuminates global environmental politics in a new way.

2.5.1 Governance as a process whereby decisions are made and implemented.

One of the main goals of the New Urban Agenda is to change the "prevailing perception of cities as a significant source of negative ecological impacts" by using urban areas as a "source of solutions" for sustainability and resilience (Parnell, 2016). This exemplifies how discussions of urban governance are inextricably tied to arguments regarding accountability for climate change action and examinations of the reasons for actors' participation in governing activities. Assuming that addressing climate, change is essential, the question that arises is how to enhance urban government procedures to do so. Early debates about capacity building, resource transfer, and political leadership have given way to examinations of the institutional frameworks that support successful climate action. The administration of governance institutions that possess the drive and ability to implement climate change raises a political dilemma (Betsill & Bulkeley, 2021). On the other hand, cities are involved in new urban governance models that are more widely expressed globally. One of the main ways that

cities demonstrate their impact on international climate change politics is through network governance.

2.5.2 Cities, climate action, and international development discourses

One of the most important questions for the administration of climate change in urban settings is how to rank the various areas of intervention. Discussions regarding the best course of action have been influenced by the distinction between climate change adaptation and mitigation, as well as the possible conflicts that may arise between the two (Eriksen et al., 2015). Although there are trade-offs between adaptation and mitigation, considering local initiatives presents ways to address them however, most of the time, adaptation has been presented as a local problem. In addition to becoming more severe and frequent, urban climate change hazards are also expected to have a significant effect on a variety of urban infrastructures, services, the built environment, and supporting ecosystems (Carter et al., 2015).

The connection between poverty, urban inequality, and urban populations' susceptibility to the effects of climate change has been repeatedly highlighted by empirical studies over the past 20 years (Singh & Singh, 2017). The structural factors that perpetuate poverty, such as economic inequality, a lack of political representation, poor access to services, and limited life opportunities, all contribute to the urban poor's susceptibility to climate change-related hazards. Thus, there is broad consensus that pro-poor adaptation strategies that link local development through adaptation planning and support the assets of the urban poor should be the focus of urban governance efforts, particularly in housing and service upgrading programs. According to Carter et al. (2015), as evidenced by the experiences of various cities worldwide and the most recent reports from the Intergovernmental Panel for Climate Change, and policy recommendations from global institutions like the World Bank; this argument is currently largely uncontroversial. However, mitigation has grown more linked to local climate justice objectives as the magnitude of the necessary material adjustments has become apparent. This argument is seen with mistrust in developing nations since foreign aid flows are being reshaped by the global politics of climate change, and aid may be regarded as being associated with a climate mitigation agenda driven by the West (Levy & Patz, 2015). Yet, mitigating measures are widespread all over the world and frequently directly relate to social justice and environment.

2.6 Challenges in the effective implementation of the legal framework in Nigeria

This section of the study examines the difficulties related to climate change governance in Nigeria to evaluate existing policies and propose changes to improve their effectiveness and execution, and promote a more resilient and sustainable environment. Nigeria's position is crucial since it has a big interest in international climate initiatives (Olujobi & Odogbo, 2024). With more than 200 million people and a fossil fuel-based economy, it is evident that Nigeria is particularly vulnerable to the effects of climate change. Despite Nigeria's known challenges, there are several challenges facing Nigeria's legal system that prevent climate measures from being implemented successfully. To guarantee thorough and efficient climate governance, this study buttresses several significant issues or constraints with the current system that demand immediate (Falkner, 2016).

2.6.1 Inadequate Enforcement and Implementation of Climate Legal Framework

Nigeria's laws and regulations though not specifically designed for mitigating and adapting to climate change, have several rules and regulations that contain provisions that could be used to solve the nation's climate-related issues (Falkner, 2016). However, the implementation gap in these legislative frameworks has made them incapable of playing roles in mitigating climate change's effects. One of the fundamental problems is the lack of political will to implement these current regulations, which as a result, many of these frameworks are not widely used, despite their promises and potential relevance. Rather than prioritizing enforcement of existing laws and policies, the government seems more interested in creating new ones. This has led Nigeria to face a situation where well-meaning legislation and policy initiatives fall short of producing measurable results as a result of inaction (Adeshina et al., 2024). These frameworks' effectiveness is redundant due to the lack of strong enforcement mechanisms, which prevents them from significantly advancing efforts to mitigate and adapt to climate change. The regulatory structure put in place by the Nigerian Environmental Standards and Regulations Enforcement Agency (NESREA) Act serves as an example whereas if properly executed, these rules may be essential to accomplishing the goals specified in Nigeria's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) under the Paris

Agreement. Unfortunately, these clauses are mainly dormant and only exist in statute books without the required enforcement to spur significant progress and real change (Goreau, 2024).

2.6.2 Lack of Domestic Integration of Global Climate Agreements

According to Okeke & Anushiem. (2018), the international treaties signed by Nigeria are fluid and are not immediately passed as law unless they are domesticated and incorporated into national legislation, according to Section 12 of the Nigerian Constitution. Unfortunately, Nigerian-ratified climate change accords have not yet been domesticated, making them void under Nigerian law. To this effect, these agreements are not enforceable, which thus reduces their usefulness and weakens their legitimacy. These treaties cannot be used as legal instruments to ensure adherence or address Nigeria's climate change issues until they are codified in national law (Ikehi et al., 2022). These accords' ability to spur significant climate action and advance sustainable practices is weakened by the lack of adoption and domestication.

Domesticating ratified climate change accords must be Nigeria's top priority to address this issue. According to Uche & Azoro-Amadi. (2024) integrating these international commitments into domestic legislation will create a strong legal foundation for implementing climate policies thus guaranteeing adherence, and holding the government responsible for its promises. This action will ensure that Nigeria's legal system complies with its international climate pledges by bridging the gap between international commitments and domestic enforcement. In addition, through domestication, stakeholders, citizens, organizations, and the judiciary would have the authority to use these accords as legal tools to demand compliance with climate obligations, seek restitution, and start legal action. Furthermore, Nigeria might improve its climate governance, boost its institutional and legal ability to fight climate change and show its commitment to meeting its climate pledges both at home and abroad by implementing this crucial step (Filho et al., 2019).

2.6.3 Weak Institutional Instruments for Managing the Environment against Climate Change

The impacts of climate change are managed by several governmental institutions, however, there is a lack of operational capability and efficacy necessary to make a significant difference. This can be seen as a lack of proper enforcement of current environmental protection laws and regulations thus making the nation more exposed to the effects of climate change. The National Environmental Standards and Regulations Enforcement Agency (NESREA), the Nigerian Meteorological Agency (NIMET) (which monitors weather and climate), the National Planning Commission (NPC), and the Department of Climate Change within the Federal Ministry of Environment are some of the important participants of these institutional instruments (Raimi et al., 2021).

The disjointed in these institutional bodies towards the decision-making procedure impedes attempts to assess how well climate change laws reduce emissions and promote adaptation. Furthermore, the country's progress in tackling climate change concerns is stalled by the inability to allocate resources and coordinate actions due to a lack of a unified and integrated approach (OECD, 2015). When duties are distributed among several organizations, it frequently results in overlapping tasks, wasteful resource utilization, and ambiguous responsibility, thus measuring the impact and effectiveness of climate change policies and initiatives more challenging in the absence of clearly defined authorities and coordination structures. (Monteiro et al., 2022) opined that Nigeria must put improved institutional coordination first to overcome these obstacles by combining activities under a single, climate change-focused authority. To achieve this, there is a need to establish efficient avenues for cooperation and communication, simplify duties, and make agency missions clearer and more paramount. As a result, the nation would be better equipped to address climate issues, monitor advancements, and enact significant laws and policies with greater integration. Other ways include strong monitoring, assessment, and reporting mechanisms implementation to evaluate climate change policies and their effects on attempts to reduce emissions and adapt to them. To close gaps in policy and execution, tailored interventions would be made possible by evidence-based decision-making and accountability systems (Obaniyi et al., 2022).

2.7 Gaps in Existing Literature

Although several studies have been conducted on the role of legal frameworks in tackling climate change worldwide, there are still many unanswered questions about how these frameworks work in specific local contexts, especially in vulnerable areas like Nigeria's Kwara State. The conversion of Nigeria's growing adherence to global climate accords, such as the Paris Agreement, which is in line with legislative frameworks that work at the national and state levels, is still not well understood (Ojo, 2023). In areas where socioeconomic vulnerabilities and environmental concerns converge, this gap in the research is essential to comprehend and is geared towards enhancing the effectiveness of climate governance.

2.7.1 Lack of Comprehensive Analysis of Legal Frameworks

Several sectoral topics have been discussed within the framework of climate change which including agriculture, energy, and urban planning, as seen in great detail in the literature. Nevertheless, little study has been done to critically analyze how legal frameworks contribute to comprehensive climate governance. The fragmented nature of Nigeria's institutional and legal response to climate change has been brought to light by studies like those conducted by (Okeke & Anushiem, 2018). However, little research has been done on how these frameworks work together, especially in terms of reconciling global obligations with regional realities. The majority of previous research ignores the difficulties in enforcing the law that arise from sociopolitical causes, including a lack of political will, corruption, and resource limitations. For instance, the Nigerian Climate Change Act and the NESREA Act have provisions that may greatly improve climate action, but systemic institutional problems have made their implementation essentially ineffective (Abbass et al., 2022). This problem is made worse in Kwara State by the absence of measures designed to handle its particular climatic issues, like unpredictable rainfall patterns and reliance on agriculture. In light of this, legal framework research needs to change to consider these dynamics and provide a thorough evaluation of their strengths and weaknesses (Akerele, 2024).

2.7.2 Ineffectiveness of Domestication of International Agreements

Despite that Nigeria has accepted the Paris Agreement, the Kyoto Protocol, and the UNFCCC, among other international climate change agreements, these treaties have not been domesticated, as required by Section 12 of the Nigerian Constitution, which implies that they are not enforceable into the domestic legal system. According to Ebele & Emodi. (2016), this restriction turns these accords into aspirational declarations rather than enforceable legislation. It has become evident that making real progress in climate governance is hampered by the failure to domesticate international agreements. This disparity is especially harmful in Kwara State, where localized effects of climate change, such as desertification and flooding, necessitate immediate and binding legal actions. For instance, whereas the Paris Agreement stresses the incorporation of climate action into national development plans, Nigeria's legislative and policy frameworks have not yet successfully adopted its tenets (Ikehi et al., 2022)

2.7.3 Fragmented Governance Structures

Another gap to look into is that Coordinated action is hampered by the numerous entities and conflicting missions that define Nigeria's climate change governance structure. Organizations like the Federal Ministry of Environment, the Nigerian Meteorological Agency (NIMET), and NESREA are known to function autonomously, which frequently results in inefficiencies and duplication by (Adedeji et al., 2014). This disorganization, which is a result of a lack of cooperation between federal institutions and state-level environmental agencies in Kwara State makes it more difficult for the nation to enact a unified climate policy and efficiently track its results. For instance, although national frameworks such as the Nigeria Climate Act offer a guide for action, insufficient funds and technical expertise frequently hinder its implementation at the state level (Ikehi et al., 2022). To ensure that resources are efficiently mobilized and used to address localized climate concerns, this gap highlights the necessity for integrated governance models that coordinate federal and state efforts.

2.7.4 Underrepresentation of Local Contexts in Climate Literature

There is a substantial knowledge gap on how national-level policies operate in local contexts due to the climate literature's excessive emphasis on these programs. Previous research frequently examines the results from one location to another, neglecting the distinct socioeconomic and environmental features of places such as Kwara State (Olujobi & Odogbo, 2024). Nigeria's National Climate Change Policy, for example, sets forth general goals for adaptation and mitigation, but it ignores state-specific issues like the country's reliance on rain-fed agriculture and the number of flood-prone informal settlements. This led to Ojo. (2023) recent research highlighting the value of regional studies in identifying the gaps and obstacles that prevent effective climate action. Policies run the risk of being out of step with local circumstances without such specific knowledge, which would reduce their effectiveness. Due to this, targeted research that examines the relationship between localized climatic vulnerabilities and legislative frameworks is necessary to close this gap and provide evidence-based recommendations that are specific to the requirements of areas like Kwara State (Ogbowuokara et al., 2023).

2.7.5 Weak Public Engagement and Awareness

According to (Ogbowuokara et al., 2023), despite being a fundamental component of successful climate governance, public engagement is still not sufficiently addressed in research and policy. This can be seen in the case of minimal understanding of public engagement in current climate legislation and its consequences. This disparity is especially noticeable in rural areas, where communities are disproportionately impacted by climate change but frequently left out of decision-making processes. One major obstacle to the enforcement of environmental legislation in Kwara State has been the absence of community involvement. For instance, the lack of public education initiatives has caused local stakeholders to have a poor awareness of the terms of the Nigeria Climate Act (Ogunbode et al., 2023). The necessity for socio-legal research that looks at how to increase public awareness and participation to promote compliance and accountability in climate governance is highlighted by this gap.

2.7.6 Limited Focus on Measurable Outcomes of Climate Policies

The majority of analyses of Nigeria's climate policy do not include empirical assessments of their effectiveness. Research frequently concentrates on the creation of policies without considering whether or not they produce the desired results. To buttress this, there is no information on the progress made toward the ambitious emission reduction objectives set by the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) under the Paris Agreement (Obaniyi et al., 2022). In addition, it is challenging to evaluate the effects of climate legislation and policies in Kwara State due to the lack of monitoring and evaluation structures. According to recent research by Kehinde & Abifarin. (2022), using strong metrics to monitor policy results can offer insightful information about how effective policies are directed for future actions. This gap in the literature necessitates multidisciplinary research to assess the effectiveness of climate governance initiatives by combining empirical methodologies with legal analysis.

2.7.7 Lack of Integration Between Climate Adaptation and Mitigation in Legal Frameworks

Another existing gap is the lack of integration of climate change adaptation and mitigation into the Nigerian legal frameworks, as they are frequently addressed differently, even though they are interrelated (Babayemi et al., 2016). The capacity of legal tools to solve the many issues raised by climate change is limited by this compartmentalized approach. Adamo et al. (2021) highlight in their recent research that the significance of integrated frameworks that coordinate both adaptation and mitigation measures is crucial to achieving a feasible result. This strategy could help Kwara State tackle two issues at once, such as lowering agricultural emissions and strengthening farming communities' ability to withstand unpredictable weather patterns. Nevertheless, this integration is still mostly unexplored in the body of current literature, indicating a crucial subject for further study.

CHAPTER THREE

METHODOLOGY

3.1 Study Area

Kwara State is located in the central region of Nigeria, approximately between the coordinates 8.5° N latitude and 4.5° E longitude as seen in Figure 1. The state is characterized by diverse landscapes, which include plains, hills, and rivers. The economy is quite agrarian, with agriculture serving as a major source of livelihood for its residents. However, Kwara State faces significant challenges related to climate change, including erratic rainfall patterns, increased flooding, and rising temperatures, which adversely impact agricultural productivity and food security (Alalade et al., 2018).

The state government has developed various policies aimed at environmental protection and climate change adaptation. However, the effectiveness of these legal frameworks is often hindered by challenges such as inadequate enforcement, limited public awareness, and insufficient funding. Local communities, heavily reliant on natural resources, are particularly vulnerable to climate impacts, exacerbating socio-economic inequalities. This case study highlights the need for a comprehensive examination of the legal frameworks in place, their implementation challenges, and the perspectives of local stakeholders to develop effective strategies for mitigating climate change in Kwara State (Olaoluwa et al., 2022b)

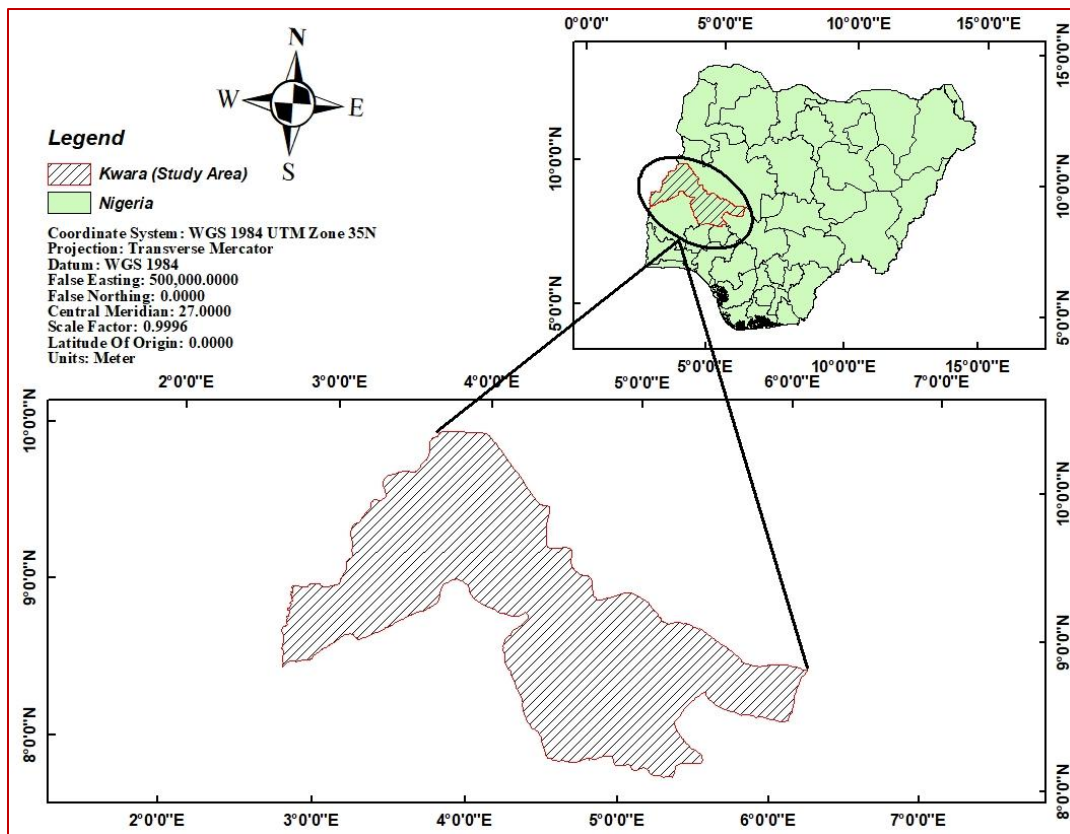


Figure 1: Map of Kwara State, Nigeria.

3.2 Research Design

Qualitative analysis was used to assess the role and effectiveness of legal frameworks in addressing climate change in Kwara State, Nigeria. This research uses qualitative data collected through semi-structured interviews and analyzed through thematic analysis.

3.3 Data Collection

Primary Data: Semi-Structured Interviews

Semi-structured interviews were conducted with key stakeholders to capture in-depth insights into the effectiveness of Nigeria’s climate-related legal frameworks in Kwara State, Nigeria. Semi-structured interviews allowed flexibility in probing deeper into participants’ responses while ensuring that key topics are covered consistently across all interviews.

3.3.1 Targeted Stakeholder Groups:

- **Government Institutions:** Representatives from relevant ministries in Environment, agriculture, Finance, Power and Energy, the Nigeria Climate Change Council (NCCC), and regulatory agencies responsible for climate policy enforcement.
- **Private sectors:** Representatives from different private sectors.
- **Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs):** Representatives from civil society organizations focused on climate change, environmental advocacy, and sustainable development.
- **Research Institutions:** Representatives from research institutes that carry out activities that have implications for climate change e.g., Institute of Climate Change Research Center for Energy Research, Forestry Research Institute of Nigeria, etc
- **Public sectors:** Representatives from academic institutions

3.3.2 Interview Structure: Each interview followed a semi-structured format, with open-ended questions to explore participants' perspectives, experiences, and suggestions regarding the effectiveness of the legal frameworks for addressing climate change in Kwara State, Nigeria.

The following key themes that have guided the interviews:

- **Effectiveness of Climate Laws:** Participants' perceptions of the current legal frameworks (e.g., the Climate Change Act and Environmental Protection Laws) and their effectiveness in reducing climate impacts.
- **Challenges in Enforcement:** Insights into the main challenges and obstacles faced in enforcing climate laws at both national and local levels.
- **Role of International Agreements:** Perceptions of how international agreements (e.g., Paris Agreement, UNFCCC) have influenced national climate change policies.
- **Recommendations for Improvement:** Participants' suggestions for enhancing legal frameworks and policy enforcement.

Interviews will be conducted face-to-face, via phone, or through video conferencing, depending on the preference and availability of the respondents.

3.3.3 Sample Size: Purposive sampling has been used to select respondents who are directly involved in or affected by climate-related legal frameworks. The sample size for interviews is based on the concept of data saturation—the point at which no new themes, insights, or information emerge from additional interviews. The sample size includes:

- **Government Institutions:** 4-6 interviews.
- **Private Organizations:** 4-6 interviews.
- **Non-Governmental Organizations:** 4-6 interviews.
- **Research Institutions:** 4-6 interviews
- **Public sectors:** 4-6 interviews

This sample size ensures a comprehensive representation of perspectives while allowing for the exploration of diverse views across stakeholder groups.

3.4 Data Analysis

The data collected from interviews have been analyzed using **thematic analysis**. The steps involved in this analysis include:

- **Transcription:** All interviews have been transcribed verbatim to ensure the accurate capture of participant responses.
- **Coding:** The transcribed data have been systematically coded using ATLAS.ti software version 24 to identify recurring themes, patterns, and categories related to the effectiveness of climate change legal frameworks.
- **Theme Identification:** Emerging themes such as enforcement challenges, legal gaps, international collaboration, and community participation have been identified.
- **Interpretation:** The data have been interpreted to conclude the perceived strengths and weaknesses of current legal frameworks, as well as recommendations for improvement.

CHAPTER FOUR

RESULTS

4.1 The Role and Effectiveness of Legal Framework in Addressing Climate Change in Kwara State, Nigeria

This section presents the findings from in-depth interviews conducted with twenty (20) respondents selected from various sectors, including government ministries, private companies, financial institutions, academia, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). The respondents provided honest insights into the topic of discussion, these have been organized and presented using thematic analysis. Key quotes from the transcripts are captured as excerpts to add depth and context to the findings. The results have been organized to align with the study's objectives and to give an explicit and detailed understanding of the research topic.

Climate-Related Threats

In Kwara State, the study population stated numerous climate-related threats that they considered major occurrences in the state. The most listed threats included flooding, drought, erratic rainfall patterns, high temperatures, and greenhouse gas emissions, amongst others as illustrated in Figure 1. It was noted that the severity and timing of these threats differ across regions in the state. These findings are highlighted in excerpt 1.

“Hmm...ok. Erratic rainfall, flooding and droughts. Em...green-house gas emission too” – *Respondent 1*

“...ok some climate-related threats in Kwara state include erratic rainfall, flooding, droughts and dumping of refuse in canals” – *Respondent 3*

“...floods, falling trees, then refuse dump, dumping of refuse.” – *Respondent 6*

“...flooding, drought, rising temperature, soil degradation, pest and diseases and water scarcity” – *Respondent 8*

“I will say the state is prone to flooding, drought, and erratic rainfall patterns” – *Respondent 15*

property, reduction of climate-related threats and their effects, and mandating of climate actions within both public and private sectors. Additionally, the legal frameworks **help to enhance the quality of agricultural yields, monitor and regulate human activities to reduce the occurrence of climate threats, and raise awareness about climate change through the enforcement of laws.** Excerpt 2 shows some of the respondents' views.

“...they are used to eradicate threats that are caused by climate changes. Also, they keep people under check and contribute to the improvement of the climate and climatic conditions.”

–*Respondent 3*

“...it's to mandate climate actions within public and private entities, then also to reduce greenhouse gas emission” – *Respondent 5*

“...to combat all these climate threats now, to help manage the threats, reduce their occurrence and save lives and properties” – *Respondent 14*

“They help to caution people, monitor their activities, to prevent those, I mean activities that can contribute to climate change” – *Respondent 18*

Excerpt 2

Figure 3 shows the various roles of climate change laws in the state, as highlighted by the respondents. Based on the respondents' perspectives, the existence and enforcement of the climate laws promote public awareness and promote monitoring and regulation of human activities. This results in a reduction in the occurrence of preventable climate-related threats and their effects, such as poor agricultural yield, loss of lives and property, and other environmental hazards that result from climate-induced events.

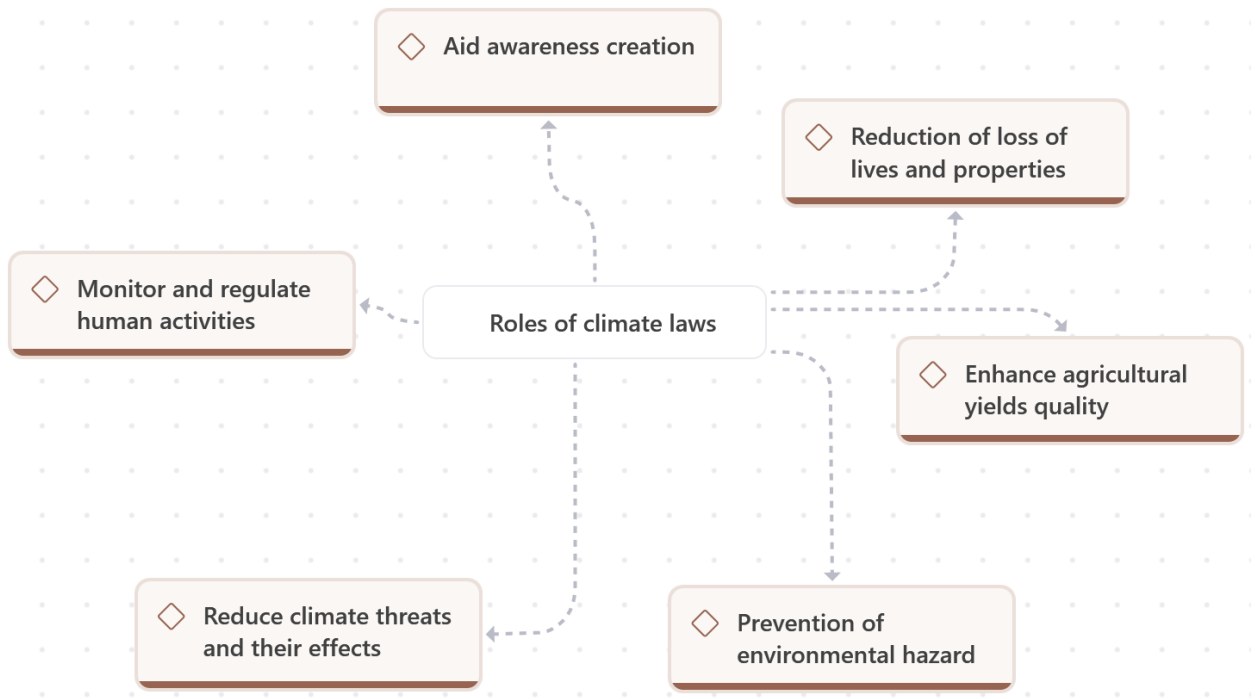


Figure 3: Role of Climate Change Laws in Kwara State

4.2.1 Role of Local Communities in Law Enforcement

According to the respondents, in collaboration with the state government, local communities, traditional leaders, and local governments play an active role in enforcing climate laws within their communities and across the state. The respondents listed how they contribute to effective climate law enforcement. They emphasized that the local communities play an important role in ensuring proper waste disposal and raising climate change awareness campaigns at the grassroots level, which involves translating legal frameworks, laws, and policies into easily implementable forms at the local level. It was also noted that local communities also serve as an important link between the state government and local communities, in providing firsthand information on urgent issues and implementing temporary, community-led interventions, such as flood control measures with the use of sandbags, pending government intervention, excerpt 3 contains some of the responses.

“...prevent illegal dumping of refuse, wastes along roadside closure, rivers, adjoining streams in neighborhoods and gutters on major and minor roads.” – *Respondent 2*

“It's to have proper sensitization, sensitize the people, to encourage them, because the government officials cannot...don't know the farmers, don't know the farms” – *Respondent 8*

“they monitor the community people at the em grassroot level. They explain the laws and its implications to them and em do their best to ensure adoption abi is it adaptation” – *Respondent 10*

“Well, em...local communities have their own indigenou system with which they deal with their own issue of the environment, including mixed cropping system, including um...trying to do mulching” – *Respondent 13*

Excerpt 3

4.3 Evaluate the Effectiveness of Laws and Policies Designed to Address Climate Change in Kwara State, Nigeria

4.3.1 Effectiveness of Climate Laws in Kwara State

There respondents had contrasting views on the effectiveness of the existing climate laws in the state. Few of the respondents expressed being ignorant of any climate change policies and, therefore are unable to assess their effectiveness. The majority of respondents, on the other hand, acknowledged the existence of legal frameworks addressing climate change issues. Of this percentage of respondents, some asserted the effectiveness of the laws and policies, while others disagreed. Interestingly, a subset of respondents who perceived the legal frameworks as ineffective associated this notion to inadequate enforcement strategies.

“Ok, I will say they are actually effective.” – *Respondent 4*

“Hmm...actually some of those laws are effective, like the one for flooding now... but the ones for drought, ah...me I don't think they effective o” – *Respondent 10*

“Well, well, I believe from my knowledge so far, I can't really pinpoint any policy... it is not effective, because as at now, most of those farmers have a lot of things to lose from that drought.” – *Respondent 12*

“Honestly, the thing is most of these laws are left on paper, enforcing and implementing them is a whole different story” – *Respondent 15*

Excerpt 4

The varied perceptions of respondents of the effectiveness of climate change policies in Kwara State are presented in Figure 4. The lack of awareness of these policies, and the perception that some of the policies are still in the development stage are possible factors that contribute to the conclusion of about a one-third of respondents perceiving the existing policies as ineffective. In contrast, a similar proportion of respondents perceived policies as effective.

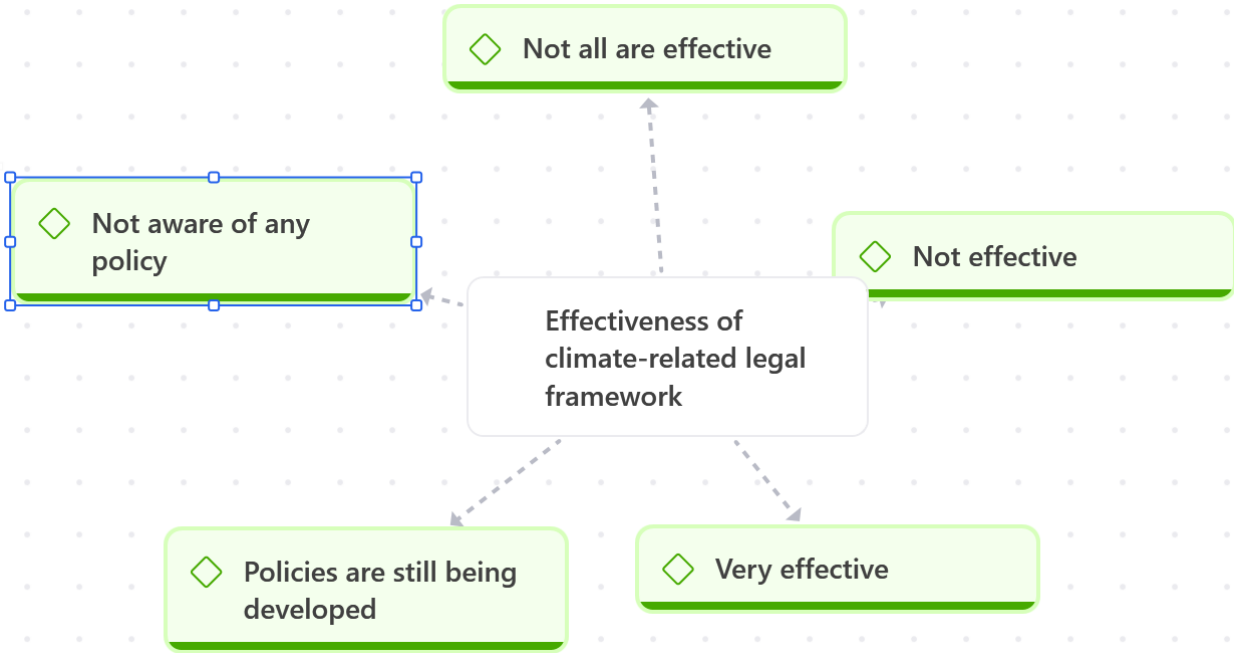


Figure 4: Effectiveness of Climate Change in Kwara State.

4.3.2 Private Sector Compliance in Kwara State

Majority of the respondents stated that the private sector in the state demonstrates satisfactory compliance with environmental laws and climate policies. Respondents from the private sector attributed this compliance to regular inspections by government agencies and the awareness of potential fines or prosecution for non-compliance. A minority of respondents however countered that the sector's activities are not adequately monitored; therefore, compliance cannot be readily measured. These contrasting perspectives emphasized the need for more detailed monitoring and enforcement strategies to ensure consistent compliance with environmental regulations and climate policies. Excerpt 5 helps to add more depth to the findings.

“Hmm...in my own opinion, they are very compliant” – *Respondent 3*

“...there's nobody that monitors them now so we can't really say. The private sector, I want to believe they comply” – *Respondent 8*

“Ehn...we're always compliant, majorly because he doesn't want to have to pay heavily, you know, if you don't abide by those environmental laws in Kwara state, you may be fined, ehen, so to avoid fines, we comply.” – *Respondent 9*

“...they are compliant, as much as they can, the only thing is that some of them, like companies now, I don't think there is a way they can em, completely not cause environmental hazards” – *Respondent 17*

Excerpt 5

4.3.3 Impact of Climate Change on Kwara State Agriculture Sector

Respondents identified a range of negative impacts of climate change on the agricultural sector in Kwara State. Top on the list is **reduction in both the quantity and quality of agricultural yields**. Importantly, respondents noted that **extreme weather conditions**, such as high temperatures and flooding, can **lead to yield reduction**, with crops either drying up or being washed away. These climate-related effects eventually result in **food scarcity** within the state. Furthermore, respondents highlighted that **flooding can culminate in soil degradation**, reducing nutrient availability. Concerning livestock, **climate change is reported to increase the prevalence of pests and diseases**, contributing additional challenges to agricultural productivity. Excerpt 6 provides further insight into these impacts.

“...it has resulted in flood, which has caused reduction in soil nutrient, you know, the nutrient in the soil is been washed off, it has in the long term resulted in food insecurity in the state and the country too.” – *Respondent 9*

“...so that will affect food security, which will affect crops yield, and of course it also affect the outbreak of pest and diseases” – *Respondent 13*

“therefore reduce harvests or let me say the final yields of the farmers, the climate nowadays can even cause diseases to livestock” – *Respondent 14*

“At times of flooding, seeds, crops may be washed away, period of drought and the high temperature makes crops to dry up, so all these results in low yield for farmers” – *Respondent 18*

Excerpt 6

Quite a number of impacts of climate change on the agricultural sector, as highlighted by the respondents are shown in Figure 5. The direct effects include soil erosion, flooding, erratic rainfall, increased greenhouse gas emissions, and high temperatures. These threats eventually result in poor agricultural yield. Also, climate change contributes to an increase in the prevalence of pests and diseases affecting crops and livestock. These adverse effects eventually result in food scarcity and food insecurity at both the state and national levels.

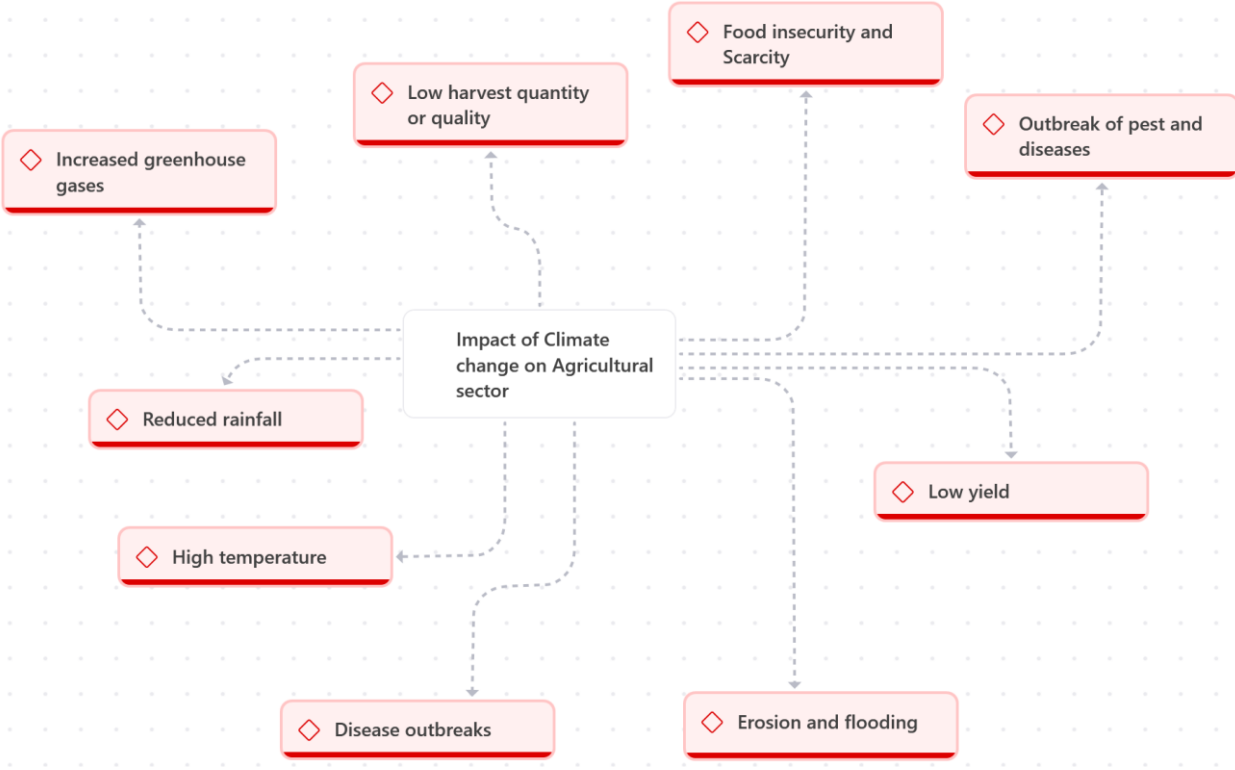


Figure 5: Impact of Climate Change on the Agricultural Sector

4.3.4 Impact of Climate Change Laws on Agriculture

In most regions in the state, respondents stated that the climate laws are effective, and compliance with these laws helps farmers to **significantly improve their yields through various means**. Notably, **the laws facilitate the provision of improved seeds**, such as drought-resistant seeds, and other essential agricultural technologies. In addition, the legal framework provides farmers with weather forecasts, which enable them to better prepare for future planting seasons. It was reported that a climate legal framework is effectively non-

existent in Kwara North, rendering it ineffective in addressing the climate-related challenges faced by farmers in the area. Excerpt 7 highlights some of the findings.

“...the citizens, particularly the farmers have gotten to be aware of um the various environmental threats, the impact of these threats on their farms, and how they can prevent them or let me say reduce the impact.” – *Respondent 7*

“the three zones were given improved seeds, it's just that we monitor them and we sensitize them on where, on when to start their planting season.” – *Respondent 8*

“...this framework is not generally in existence in Lafiagi, so we can't actually say...” – *Respondent 12*

“It informs the agriculturists, the farmers on the effects of climate change, the way they can prevent the effects, ways in which they can bypass all those natural, or climate events.” – *Respondent 17*

Excerpt 7

4.3.5 Effectiveness of Climate Change Mitigation for Vulnerable Communities

Varied perceptions were found, while examining the effectiveness of the existing legal framework in mitigating the impacts of climate change on vulnerable communities in the state. A little less than half of the respondents perceived that the laws have not been truly effective in addressing the climate-related challenges faced by these communities, stating that they continue to experience their community-specific climate threats. However, respondents who perceived the laws as effective describe their effectiveness as partial. These findings, as also captured in excerpt 8, suggest a need to review the laws or their implementation strategies to facilitate their overall effectiveness in protecting vulnerable communities from the effects of climate change.

“Well, the existing legal frameworks in Kwara state have unfortunately not been effective in protecting em...vulnerable communities from the impacts of climate change” – *Respondent 2*

“Fairly satisfactory, because you can't say the law is fully effective like that...” – *Respondent 5*

“the policies are not effective, why because, you know I told you that draining of those waterways is an ongoing project, like it's a continuous exercise, and the project is a little bit slow, in fact it's too slow, not a little bit.” – *Respondent 8*

“I can say they are effective to a large extent; it is just that in areas where enforcement is

lacking, the effectiveness will also be lacking” – *Respondent 15*

Excerpt 8

This study further examined potential factors that could promote effective enforcement and implementation of climate laws. According to the respondents, major factors include adequate funding and effective coordination of policies across various political levels. These factors were viewed to be important in ensuring that climate policies are translated into actionable measures, consequently enhancing their enforcement and implementation.

4.3.6 Funding for Climate Change Law Enforcement in Kwara

Respondents clearly highlighted varied sources of funding for climate law enforcement, including government agencies at the national and state levels, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and international donors such as the World Bank. According to the majority of respondents, the state government and NGOs are the main sources of funding for climate law enforcement in the state. Also, respondents stated that funding from external sources, such as those from the national government and international donors, they are sometimes channeled through the state government or community leaders, while many times, each donor organizes the management and distribution of its funds. Excerpt 9 shows some of these insights.

“...it’s the governing bodies, the government that gives funds to farmers and the affected communities in the times of disasters” – *Respondent 3*

“it is usually the government that provides funding for people, so government funding and even, maybe world bank too.” – *Respondent 9*

“The major funding people get is the seed, seed funding. Instead of giving them cash, finance, they give them seed funding...So that are the things that most of those NGOs do” – *Respondent 12*

“it is the government that provides funding, but we see non-governmental organizations, NGOs funding climate projects too.” – *Respondent 15*

Excerpt 9

4.3.7 Role of Funding in Law Enforcement

Majority of respondents stressed that adequate funding plays an important role in ensuring timely and effective law enforcement and implementation of climate change mitigation strategies. Notably, funding enhances the procurement or construction of necessary technologies and infrastructure, such as drainage systems, waste disposal systems, dams, and organization of afforestation programs aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Respondents also stated that sufficient funding is required to support logistical operations, in order to facilitate the work of the inspecting government agents. Considering the frequency and severity of climate-related threats, some respondents recommended that more funding is needed to address flooding. They also added the importance of ensuring that rural communities are not left out of the allocated funds, highlighting the need for equitable distribution of resources to support climate change mitigation efforts across all regions. Some of the respondents' perceptions are shown in excerpt 10.

“...funding from the government, for those that receives it, it helps in the timely and effective intervention” – *Respondent 2*

“...we need money in flooding. If all these drainages are well designed, constructed and designed, it will reduce flooding, definitely.” – *Respondent 8*

“...we all know that it's the rural area that it affects most, but it doesn't mean that the developed areas should be neglected” – *Respondent 11*

“...reach communities for inspection, monitoring, etc. Funding helps to provide needed infrastructures...” – *Respondent 17*

Excerpt 10

4.3.8 Coordination Between State and Federal Policies

From the interview, and as highlighted in excerpt 11, it was found that effective coordination and alignment of climate laws and policies across various political levels, particularly at the national and state levels, is vital for promoting their enforcement and implementation. Respondents highlighted that state-level climate laws are often derivatives of national and international climate change legislation, such as the Climate Act. This implies the alignment in climate legal framework, where laws and policies are harmonized across different levels of

government, can enhance the effectiveness of climate change mitigation and adaptation efforts.

“Kwara state’s local climate policies align with some national climate laws and international agreements...” – *Respondent 2*

“...most of these Kwara state laws and these national laws are all enjoined together under this what do you call it? The um...sustainable development goals, (SDG) so almost all the laws are actually enjoined under those laws” – *Respondent 12*

“Well, Kwara state cannot make laws on its own that won’t align with national laws, you know, they are they subset” – *Respondent 14*

“I believe the national and international laws inform the Kwara state laws on anything, climate change inclusive, so there’s alignment.” – *Respondent 20*

Excerpt 11

4.4 Identify the Key Challenges That Government Agencies and Stakeholders Face in The Enforcement of Climate-Related Laws in Kwara State

4.4.1 Challenges of Local Enforcement of Climate Laws

Respondents highlighted various challenges that hinder the effective enforcement of climate laws in the state, many of which emanate from the actions or inactions of government agencies themselves. A significant challenge noted by respondents is the **non-adherence or disobedience to climate laws and policies**, which respondents attributed to a **lack of awareness about climate change among residents**. This lack of awareness results in poor knowledge of the implications of non-compliance with climate laws, and also the contributions of individual actions to climate change. Additional challenges mentioned by respondents include **inadequate funding, insufficient technical expertise, poor supervision, language barriers, inadequate infrastructure, and ineffective enforcement strategies**. Furthermore, respondents noted that climate law offenders often go unreported and unprosecuted, and that the scope of the existing legal framework maybe inadequate to address the complexities of climate change. The majority of respondents noted that these challenges are not unique to the state but are common to many states and regions in the country, depending on the climate threat faced in that country. These insights are captured in excerpt 12.

“We have the issue of political interference, so lackadaisical attitude of people...they don't really see it as a serious thing. Then also, we have the issue of em, em what's it called, em need for more awareness, public awareness” – *Respondent 5*

“...inadequate institutional framework, ehn...another is limited capacity and resources, when they don't even have resources to work with, and another is limited access to technology.” – *Respondent 10*

“...societal reluctance towards reporting offenders” – *Respondent 11*

“...the scope that each category of laws may cover, I mean national, international, state laws, the scope they will cover will be different.” – *Respondent 15*

“...the government do not have enough officials to monitor the local areas of the state, to ensure enforcement of their laws... Another challenge is em, money, finance” – *Respondent 16*

Excerpt 12

4.4.2 Challenges of Private Sector Compliance in Kwara State

Majority of the respondents stated that the private sector in the state satisfactorily comply with climate policies, but experience some challenges that hinder full compliance. A major challenge cited by respondents is the **lack of funding**, which restricts companies' ability to procure necessary equipment or make necessary constructions, such as proper drainage systems, to ensure a clean and healthy environment. Also, a few respondents highlighted that complete eradication of environmental pollution may not be possible due to the inherent characteristics of the chemicals used in their manufacturing processes. These responses suggest that while the private sector strives to comply with climate policies, financial constraints and technological limitations pose significant limitations to achieving full compliance. Excerpt 13 highlights some of these responses.

“The problem of financing” – *Respondent 5*

“Well, a times I feel they need government collaboration to procure some heavy machine that may help curb environment pollution, because of how expensive it is to procure and install those equipment” - *Respondent 19*

“...the waste product of the kind of chemicals that our manufacturing process needs, we may not be able to completely prevent environmental pollution” - *Respondent 20*

Excerpt 13

The different challenges highlighted to be associated with the local enforcement of climate laws are illustrated in Figure 6. Adequate funding is an essential determining factor for the effectiveness of government policies, as lack of it can lead to inadequate capacity building, inefficient operational and managerial structures, and limited provision of technical skills and staff training. Also, a lack of funding for logistics can hinder effective supervision. Funding is also needed for implementing effective enforcement strategies and raising awareness of existing policies. In addition, corruption is identified as an obstacle to the enforcement of climate laws, as the loopholes it creates facilitate non-compliance among residents.

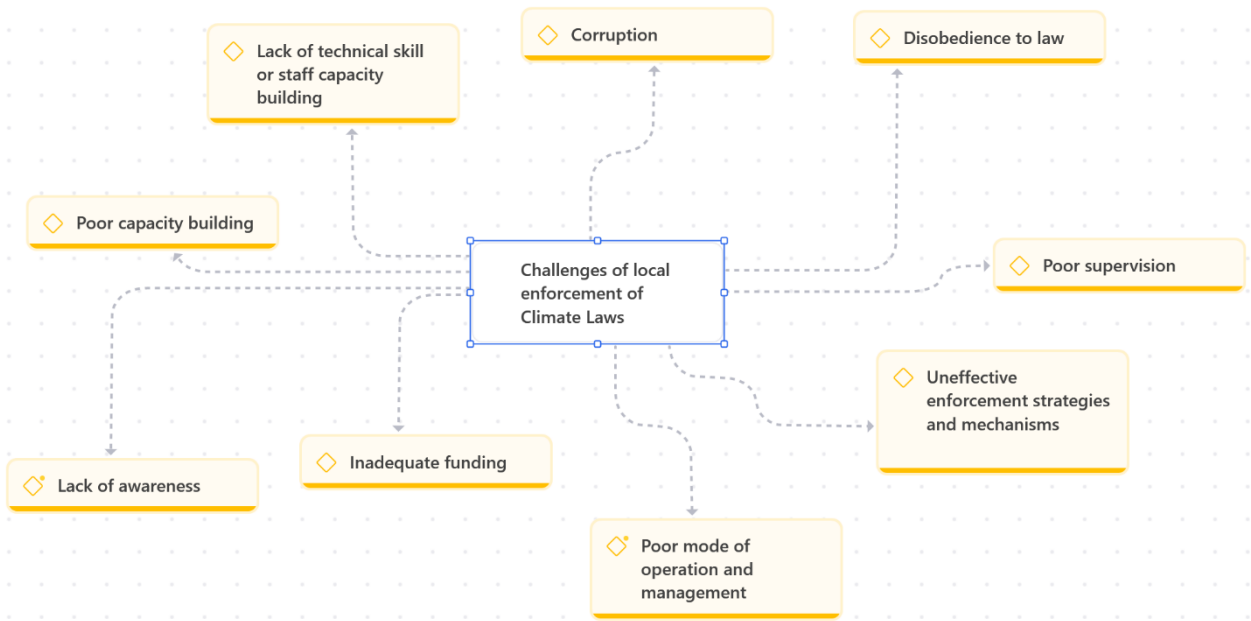


Figure 6: Challenges of Local Enforcement of Climate Laws

4.5 Recommend Ways to Make the Existing Legal Frameworks More Effective in Tackling Climate Change in The Kwara State, Nigeria

4.5.1 Local Solutions and Recommendations

While concluding, respondents offered several recommendations to enhance the effectiveness of the existing legal framework in addressing the impacts of climate change. Top on the list is the need to **improve awareness**, to ensure understanding and commitment among government agents and the general public, in mitigating the impacts of climate change. Other recommendations from the respondents include: **training and capacity-building programs for personnel** responsible for climate laws and policies enforcement staffs, **increased government commitment to climate change mitigation, review of climate policies to ease implementation**, especially in rural settlements, collaboration between government agencies and private sector entities; and **development of strategies for enforcing climate laws**, which cannot be evaded. These recommendations show the need for strategies to strengthen the existing legal framework and enhance its effectiveness in addressing the complexities of climate change. Excerpt 14 contains quotes from some of the respondents

“...they need a better approach to creating timely awareness mechanisms” – *Respondent 3*
“I'll say there should be more sensitization, more visitations to places, and then there should be charges to those that are fund guilty.” – *Respondent 4*
“...will say they should review and work on existing policies in the state concerning climate issues, you know, they should um put up a standard environmental protection agency for the state, and also they work with partner agencies, NGOs” – *Respondent 9*
“I will say they first ensure proper enforcement of the law, without allowing for any loophole what so ever, the government should train their staffs, who should in turn increase awareness among residents” – *Respondent 15*

Excerpt 14

The various recommendations stated by the respondents are presented in Figure 7. The most important is improved government commitment to climate change mitigation, as this will facilitate the implementation of other recommendations. A committed government will ensure the review and refinement of existing policies to ease implementation and enforcement. Also, government personnel will be better trained and there will be improved public awareness, promoting greater adherence to climate policies.

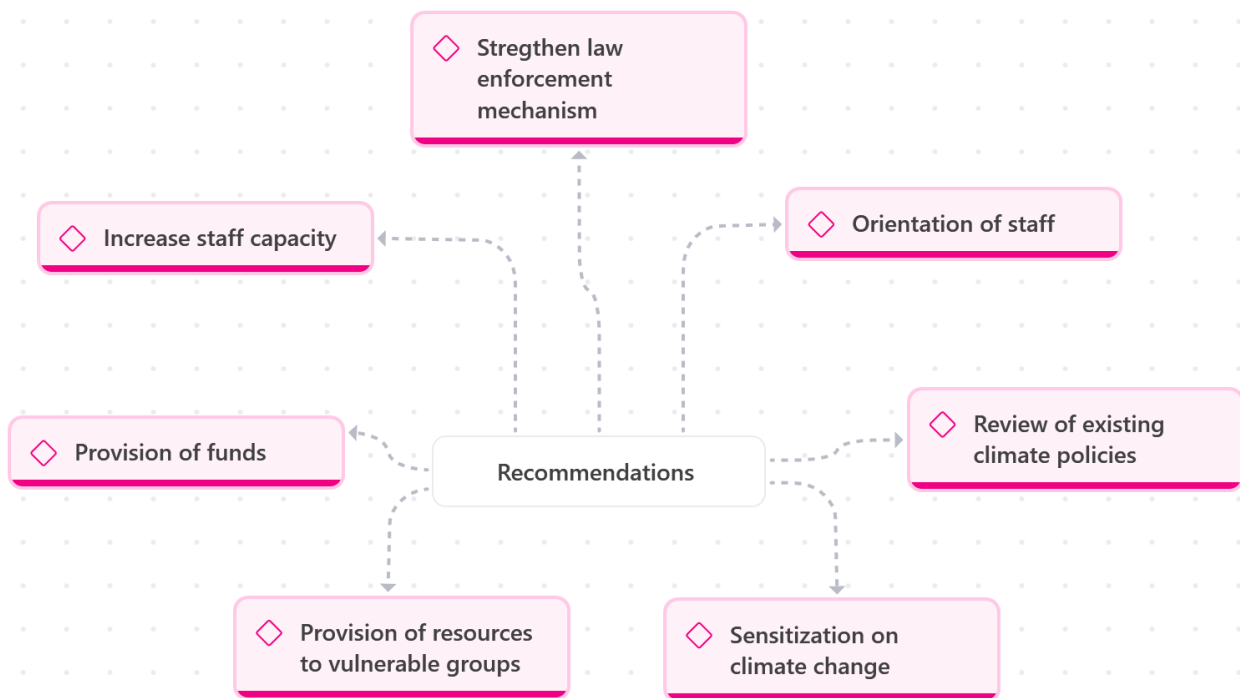


Figure 7: Interviewers' Recommendation on Climate Change

4.5.2 Capacity Building in Kwara State Institutions

Respondents also provided recommendations for capacity building in Kwara state's institutions to effectively enforce climate change mitigation measures. Very many of the respondents emphasized the need for **continuous training and retraining of government staff** and personnel concerned with climate change mitigation programs. They added that the training and resource persons could be sourced internationally to provide a broader knowledge base. Furthermore, respondents recommended the **employment of more staff to facilitate inspection and monitoring exercises**, expand the scope of coverage, and enhance the general effectiveness of climate change enforcement efforts. Excerpt 15 provides further insight into these recommendations.

“They should train more and also provide more resources to vulnerable communities.” –
Respondent 1

“The area of improvement is capacity building, training and retraining is needed for the workers of the state.” – *Respondent 5*

“Yes, I don't even think they have enough personnel; they don't have enough personnel, because I think they should be stationed in strategic places, not until when these things are reported to them.” – *Respondent 11*

“...they can train them and make them more aware of what they've been called to do” – *Respondent 16*

Excerpt 15

CHAPTER FIVE

DISCUSSIONS

5.1 DISCUSSIONS

This chapter critically evaluates the findings from the analysis conducted on the role and effectiveness of the legal framework in fighting climate change in Kwara State, Nigeria. It also addresses the needed improvements and identifies the gap while highlighting key issues about the reviewed literature, thus providing a deeper understanding of the subject matter.

5.2 Identify the Role of The Existing Legal Framework in Addressing Climate Change in Kwara State

The study affirms that there are existing legal frameworks in Kwara State geared toward addressing climate change however, these legal frameworks are not effectively enforced into actions, thus resulting in continued environmental degradation as seen in Figure 2. To buttress this point, Okeke & Anushiem. (2018);and (Abbass et al., 2022) affirmed that the Nigeria Climate Change Act and the National Environmental Standards and Regulations Enforcement Agency (NESREA) Act were established to ensure the mitigation of climate change effects, as seen in Fig 2. Still, the enforcement of these Acts remains weak due to a lack of proper coordination between government agencies, insufficient funding, and political weakness. Also, Figure 3 highlights the roles of the climate change laws in Kwara State, thus sustaining the findings; however, while these laws exist, they are not fully enforced. This argument aligns with Adedeji et al. (2014) that the overlapping of government responsibilities creates confusion, resulting in the inefficiency of climate change law enforcement. The word cloud in Figure 2 also establishes the prevalence of climate change threats, which further demonstrates that climate change legal frameworks in Kwara state have not fully addressed the environmental issues.

The disconnect between environmental laws and socio-economic contexts is a critical issue that plagues Kwara State. The legal framework, while theoretically providing strategies to combat climate change, some key sectors such as the agriculture and local planning communities are not properly addressed, which corroborates with David Raj et al. (2024) who

asserted that unsustainable agriculture is one of the challenges vulnerable people face. This misalignment impedes the impact of climate-related laws, which makes the enforcement of these laws ineffective in addressing vulnerable communities. This challenge aligns with the arguments that stem from Okeke. (2024) and Gusmão Caiado et al. (2018) who affirmed that the integration of the local communities is needed for the effectiveness of climate-related laws. In addition, Okeke & Anushiem. (2018) argued that the failure of environmental policies is attributed to the weak engagement with local communities, which leads to enforcement gaps as observed in Kwara State. Filho et al. (2019) further support this opinion by highlighting that involving local communities in climate adaptation strategies will enhance the feasibility and success of climate laws. Furthermore, this is evident in section 4.1.2, which shows the importance of integrating local communities into climate law enforcement, illustrating that local actors often bridge the gap between policy and grassroots implementation; however, they face obstacles in translating these legal mandates into practical actions.

5.3 Evaluate the Effectiveness of Laws and Policies Designed to Address Climate Change in Kwara State, Nigeria

Despite the existence of climate laws in Kwara State, extreme climate threats such as erratic rainfall, droughts, and flooding have been a continued experience of the people. This can be seen in Figure 4, which buttresses the perceptions of respondents that amplified that these climate laws have not been effective, especially towards the mitigation of climate change. This finding corroborates Uche & Azoro-Amadi. (2024) argument that enforcement of climate laws is weak due to inconsistencies in the integration of climate laws at the state level. In addition, Nigeria's commitment to global agreements (Paris Agreement and UNFCCC) has been more theoretical due to the absence of domestication of legal laws for climate change Ebele & Emodi. (2016).

Furthermore, farmers in Kwara State have raised a huge concern over the absence of government-backed adaptation strategies, which leads to recurring food insecurity in the state. One of the farmers stated, "We no longer know when to plant or harvest because the weather is unpredictable, and pests have destroyed most of our crops", this statement sums up the struggles illustrated by Figure 5 on the impact of climate change on agriculture showing the decline of crop yields, increased pest infestation and also soil degradation attributed to prolonged rainfall and droughts. These findings corroborate with Adamo et al. (2021), who

opined that the decline in agricultural productivity is a result of the weak climate policies in Nigeria. In addition, Monteiro et al. (2022) affirm that food security will continue to deteriorate without the integration of climate-smart agriculture into the legal framework. This study also supports the assertions of Uche & Azoro-Amadi. (2024) who argue that the failure to integrate climate adaptation measures into governance frameworks disproportionately burdens rural farmers, who must rely on their limited resources to cope with environmental challenges. Moreover, Filho et al. (2019) opined that local agricultural adaptation measures remain largely informal and lack legal recognition, thus reinforcing the need for a structured approach to support smallholder farmers. Also, farmers continue to face climate shocks with minimal state intervention due to the absence of targeted policies to protect the agricultural sector, further deepening vulnerabilities in food production and rural economies.

Another finding was that while some policies exist to protect vulnerable communities, they are still left without government support, thus increasing their vulnerability to climate-induced disasters, which aligns with Muluneh. (2021) who emphasized the climate threats that occur in Nigeria. This observation depicts the ineffectiveness of climate laws to protect vulnerable communities and thus collaborates with what Filho et al. (2019) said that the government needs to incorporate community-based adaptation strategies to ensure long-term resilience. Also, the compliance of the private sector with climate regulations is another critical issue that was established in the findings. Inferring from the results, while business acknowledges the importance of climate mitigation, they are faced with financial and regulatory barriers that prevent full adherence. The findings show that some respondents from the private sector acknowledged that government inspections ensure the compliance and enforcement of regulations; however, some business operates without integrating climate change mitigation strategies in their activities. This corroborates the arguments posed by Betsill & Bulkeley. (2021) that multi-level governance is important in ensuring private sector accountability in climate policies. Furthermore, the study found that despite the alignment of Kwara State's legal framework with national and international climate policies, there are still inconsistencies with implementations due to a lack of support from the federal institutions. This assertion is the argument of Adedeji et al. (2014), which says that fragmented governance weakens climate resilience measures, thus emphasizing the need for alignment between levels of government.

Fundamentally, the challenges with securing funding, as found out in the study, also pose a significant barrier to the effectiveness of laws and policies that are designed to address climate change. This can be inferred from the findings where significant respondents ascertained that insufficient funding remains one of the barriers that hinders law enforcement in Kwara State. In addition, limited financial resources hinder the procurement of essential enforcement tools, restrict staff capacity, and reduce the ability of agencies to monitor compliance effectively. This aligns with the argument of Ikehi et al. (2022), which emphasizes that inadequate financial investment in climate governance weakens the ability of institutions to implement meaningful change, amplifying that without sustainable funding sources, climate policies risk remaining theoretical rather than actionable.

5.4 Identify the Key Challenges that Government Agencies and Stakeholders Face in the Enforcement of Climate-Related Laws in Kwara State

The study buttresses the point that the enforcement of climate-related laws in Kwara State presents a myriad of challenges for government agencies and stakeholders. Inferring from section 4.3 of the results, it can be seen that some of the challenges include inadequate funding, lack of technical expertise, poor supervision, political interference, societal reluctance towards reporting offenders, and the limited scope of the existing legal framework. In addition, Figure 6 further illustrates these challenges, demonstrating the interconnection between weak institutional capacity, insufficient financial resources, and public disengagement. The findings support the argument of Ojo. (2023) and Okeke & Anushiem. (2018) which emphasizes structural and institutional deficiencies as key impediments to effective climate law enforcement.

5.4.1 Institutional and Governance Challenges

As presented from the findings, respondents in the study highlight that climate law enforcement agencies are underfunded and understaffed, making it difficult to monitor compliance effectively. This corroborates with Muluneh. (2021) who noted that institutional incapacity is a prevalent issue in Nigeria's climate governance. Similarly, emphasized that inadequate regulatory enforcement mechanisms render climate policies ineffective, leaving them largely as theoretical frameworks rather than practical tools for the mitigation of climate change. Additionally, Figure 6 visually underscores this institutional weakness, depicting that a high proportion of respondents have identified financial constraints as a major impediment

to the enforcement of climate-related laws. Also, political interference is another critical challenge, as highlighted by respondents, that policymakers often prioritize short-term economic gains over long-term environmental sustainability. This affirms the argument of Falkner. (2016) who identified political will as a significant determinant of climate law enforcement, arguing that many developing countries, including Nigeria, fail to implement existing policies due to political inertia. Additionally, Okeke & Anushiem. (2018) also mentioned that the lack of domestic integration of international climate agreements in Nigeria weakens the legal framework, as international commitments remain largely aspirational without national-level enforcement.

5.4.2 Public Awareness and Compliance Issues

As highlighted in Figure 6 of the findings, many respondents are either unaware of existing regulations or do not fully understand the consequences of non-compliance, which further emphasizes that a lack of awareness about climate laws and their implications is a major defect in the enforcement of climate laws. This is consistent with Ogunbode et al. (2023), who observed that weak public engagement undermines environmental law enforcement in Nigeria. Furthermore, the reluctance of communities to report climate law offenders exacerbates the situation. As identified by Ogbowuokara et al. (2023), strong community participation is crucial for successful climate governance, yet local engagement remains minimal in Kwara State. In addition, language barriers and inadequate communication strategies further exacerbate public compliance, thus making legal provisions not effectively translated into local dialects or simplified for public understanding, which leads to enforcement becoming challenging. This supports the findings of Olujobi & Odogbo. (2024), who noted that the underrepresentation of local contexts in climate governance results in ineffective implementation at sub-national levels.

5.4.3 Infrastructural and Financial Constraints

The study also revealed that the lack of funding is a significant barrier to effective enforcement. This can be seen in the case of government agencies that are responsible for climate law implementation often operate with limited resources, restricting their ability to carry out monitoring, supervision, and prosecution of offenders. This corroborates with Ikehi et al. (2022), who opined that financial constraints are one of the primary reasons for the weak enforcement of environmental laws in Nigeria. The situation is further exacerbated by limited

access to technology, which reduces the capacity of agencies to track compliance and assess climate impacts effectively. Moreover, poor infrastructure, such as inadequate drainage systems and waste management facilities, undermines climate law enforcement as pointed out by respondents in the study, indicating that without the necessary infrastructure to support compliance, enforcing environmental regulations becomes unrealistic. In addition, Figure 6 also reflects this by showing the proportion of respondents who attributed enforcement challenges to infrastructural deficits, which are consistent with Adedeji et al. (2014), highlighting that fragmented governance structures and resource misallocation hinder effective climate action at both national and state levels.

5.4.4 Fragmentation and Lack of Policy Coordination

The fragmented nature of climate governance in Nigeria is another crucial challenge that the study has identified. The results indicate that there is often a lack of coordination between state and federal climate policies, leading to discrepancies in implementation. This asserts the findings of Babayemi et al. (2016), who emphasized that climate mitigation and adaptation efforts are often compartmentalized, reducing their overall effectiveness. Additionally, as highlighted by Raimi et al. (2021), multiple governmental agencies operate independently, leading to jurisdictional overlaps and inefficiencies. This fragmentation results in a lack of clear responsibilities and accountability in climate law enforcement, further complicating efforts to achieve environmental sustainability in Kwara State.

5.5.5 The Scope of Legal Frameworks and Enforcement Mechanisms

It can also be noted from the study that the existing legal frameworks may not adequately address the complexities of climate change because some laws remain vague in their scope and do not explicitly define enforcement strategies, penalties, or responsibilities. This is in line with the argument of Goreau. (2024) that many environmental laws in Nigeria exist primarily as policy statements that are void of robust implementation mechanisms. Furthermore, as identified in the literature by Turnheim et al. (2015), the lack of integration of sector-specific realities into climate laws often fails to produce meaningful outcomes. In the case of Kwara State, respondents buttressed that climate laws should be adapted to reflect local socio-economic conditions, especially in rural areas where compliance with climate laws is hindered by limited access to alternative livelihoods. Another challenge identified in this study is the implications of climate governance, thus suggesting that without notable reforms

in governance structures, adequate financial allocation, and community engagement strategies, climate law enforcement in Kwara State will remain largely ineffective. As observed by Filho et al. (2019), strengthening institutional capacity and integrating community-based climate action into legal frameworks are crucial steps toward improving enforcement outcomes. It is also worth of note that policy coherence between state and federal levels is essential to avoid conflicts and overlaps in law enforcement efforts.

CHAPTER SIX

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 Conclusions

This study assesses the effectiveness of the legal framework in addressing climate change in Kwara State, Nigeria. The findings showed that the main climate-related threats in the state are flooding, drought, and erratic rainfall patterns. Even though the existing legal framework plays a vital role in mitigating these threats, its effectiveness is hindered by several variables, some of which are inadequate enforcement, poor awareness among both residents and government agencies, and lack of funding to support climate change initiatives. In addition, key challenges faced by government agencies in enforcing climate-related laws were examined. They include non-adherence to laws, lack of funds, poor technical expertise, and poor supervision.

The existing laws such as the Nigeria Climate Change Act and the National Environmental Standards and Regulations Enforcement Agency (NESREA) Act serve as pillars for climate governance however, implementation is been hindered due to poor institutional capacity, public awareness, and other identified challenges. Also, local communities, which are most vulnerable to climate change impacts, are often left out of policy implementation, making enforcement less effective. To promote the effectiveness of the legal framework, respondents recommended an array of approaches that involve government agencies, private sector entities, and local communities. Particularly, the study suggests the provision of more funds in support of climate change initiatives, capacity building and training programs for personnel responsible for enforcing and implementing climate laws and policies, and awareness creation to educate residents about the importance of climate change mitigation. Also, the study mentioned the need for alignment of climate laws and policies across various political levels, and collaboration between government agencies and the private sector. By adopting a comprehensive and inclusive approach, Kwara State can strengthen its legal framework and enhance its ability to address the complexities of climate change.

6.2 Recommendation on ways to make the existing legal frameworks more effective in tackling climate change in Kwara state, Nigeria

- I. Public Awareness is crucial in fostering the effectiveness of climate laws in Kwara State. As indicated by respondents, public ignorance of climate laws is a significant barrier to compliance, reinforcing the need for enhanced public awareness campaigns. This corroborates with Ogunbode et al. (2023) suggestion that community engagement through education programs can create accountability and improve adherence to climate policies.
- II. Also, respondents emphasized the importance of strengthening institutional capacity, highlighting a need for continuous training and capacity-building programs for government officials, law enforcement personnel, and environmental regulators. This in addition, fosters training programs and incentives for law enforcement in Kwara State. Through this training process, law enforcement personnel can stay abreast of what needs to be done for the enforcement of climate policies. This school of thought aligns with Kehinde & Abifarin. (2022) who argued that institutional reforms, such as professional development and targeted enforcement training, are vital in addressing inefficiencies.
- III. Financial support is important in ensuring the effectiveness of climate laws in Kwara State. Inferring from the findings, inadequate financial support, as identified by the respondents, is part of the reasons that climate laws have not been effective in Kwara State. This implies that there is a need to advocate for increased budget allocations for climate programs, thus aligning with Babayemi et al. (2016), who mentioned that sufficient funding and environmental laws remain ineffective. In addition, as illustrated in Figure 7, infrastructural deficits, such as inadequate drainage systems and waste management facilities, are a result of poor financial investment in climate governance.
- IV. Inter-agency collaboration is also an important recommendation as respondents linked weak enforcement to governance fragmentation, which affirms Babayemi et al. (2016), emphasizing the necessity of policy harmonization to avoid conflicting mandates. In addition, a more coordinated effort between government agencies, private sector entities, and NGOs should be encouraged, as working in isolation will hinder the effectiveness of climate laws. Inter-agency collaboration will ensure an

integrated enforcement strategy that enhances the effectiveness of climate governance in Kwara State.

- V. Reviewing and reforming climate policies are essential in identifying the gaps in enforcement and implementation. Also, reviewing policies ensures that they are practical and inclusive, particularly for rural communities that are mostly affected by climate change.

Ultimately, a holistic approach integrating public participation, strengthening institutional capacity, adequate financial support, and policy harmonization is crucial to enhance climate governance in Kwara State. Without these measures, the existing legal frameworks will continue to suffer enforcement challenges, limiting their effectiveness in addressing climate change and promoting environmental sustainability.

CHAPTER SEVEN

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APPENDIX

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS (5)

Government Institution 1

Transcript number: 005

I: Interviewer

R: Respondent

R: Like the first one you're asking of, climate related threats, flooding, draught, heat waves, food insecurity um...those are the main ones, because you said main climate-related

I: Yes, in Kwara state. In your opinion, how effective are the existing climate-related legal frameworks such as Kwara State's climate policies and national law, in addressing the specific climate challenges faced by Kwara State?

R: Our policy is still in pipeline, it has not even finally approved, it's still in drafting but we have a national law, the climate act, the national climate act, ehn.. national climate act 2021

I: Are they included in the framework?

R: Ehn the climate threats now, they are included in the national climate act, including our policy. But the policy is not yet official. By the end of this year, that policy should be available. All the listed climate-related threats are included in the policy, and it's effective.

I: Alright sir. Speaking of roles of climate laws, In your opinion sir, what are the roles of existing climate-related legal frameworks (such as Kwara State's climate policies and national laws) in addressing the specific climate challenges faced by Kwara State?

R: Yes, it's to mandate climate actions within public and private entities, then also to reduce green house gas emission, to enforce reduction of greenhouse gas emission.

I: Thank you sir. Ok sir. We want to talk about local enforcement of climate laws, what are the key challenges that government agencies in Kwara State face in enforcing climate change-related laws? How do these challenges differ from other regions in Nigeria?

R: We have the issue of political interference, so lackadaisical attitude of people. The people you want to enforce the law on, due to their attitude, they just see as it not compulsory or it's not necessary. So that ehn... violation of environmental laws ehen...they don't really see it as a serious thing. Then also, we have the issue of em, em what's it called, em need for more awareness, public awareness, so low level of education of people too is a challenge in enforcing climate laws.

I: You mean education as in education on environmental...

R: Not just on environmental, you know people that are literate, they tend to obey the laws more than those that are illiterate.

I: Thank you sir. So what are the main impacts of climate change on agriculture?

R: It causes low yield of agricultural products leading to food insecurity, then also poor quality of agricultural products.

I: Hmm..ok sir. So sir, how do you think legal frameworks such as climate policies, agriculture policies and national policies aimed at climate change mitigation impacted Kwara State's agriculture sector, which in this case is particularly vulnerable to climate change effects?

R: Yes, the legal frameworks have affected the agricultural sector to a large extent. It has affected it positively to a large extent.

I: Ok sir. Um about the local communities, how involved are local communities in Kwara State in enforcing and monitoring climate laws?

R: That's very poor, because em the local people they are not em very informed and aware of this climate em impact. They are feeling the impact, but for them to know that em the climate issue is what is causing the impact, they not well informed. So that's a challenge.

I: So the local communities, is there a way that you sensitize them?

R: To sensitize them, that's what the state is trying to do, to sensitize them, have something like a climate change index officer within all the local governments, so that that one will move into the communities to sensitize people

I: Follow up question, what role do they play in climate adaptation effort?

R: They engage in community effort of nature-based solution. Like some of them now, where you know there is erosion or flooding issue now, some of them, they can use sand bag to protect the water from overflowing to their community. Some of them, they have shrubs that they plant to prevent erosion. So those are nature-based solutions, because they can't do concrete embankment, its government that can do that one.

I: Considering we have national and state laws, sir, how well do Kwara State's local climate policies align with national climate laws and international agreements?

R: So the state policies align with both the national and international policies.

I: Hmm..ok. So are there gaps in implementing the laws?

R: Yes, the gaps is finance issue, because we need funds to implement the... So they are gaps that exists between the state and the national... So the level of implantation is low, due to scarcity of funds or lack of funds.

I: Thank you sir. Funding for climate laws; what funding resources do people get around here?

R: Well, maybe funds from NGO, there is no funds from government, so private donors or financiers.

I: So who manage/distribute the funds?

R: It's the NGOs

I: Thank you sir. Now, what role does funding, or the lack thereof, plays in effectively enforcing climate-related legal frameworks in Kwara State?

R: So it promotes em the enforcement, for those that are able to get funding. So for those that do not get, it slows down the implementation.

I: Ok sir. Are there specific areas you think need more for financial support?

R: Yes, the area of climate change adaptation, Climate change adaptation, climate change education and awareness. Then em, capacity building too is an area where funding is needed.

I: Ok sir. Moving on, how effective are um, existing legal frameworks or policies in Kwara State in protecting vulnerable communities from the impacts of climate change?

R: Fairly satisfactory, because you can't say the law is fully effective like that, people are still feeling the impact of the threats. So...

I: Ok sir. On private sector compliance, how compliant is the private sector in Kwara State with environmental and climate-related regulations?

R: Averagely satisfactory, you know some of them to comply involve having the right technology in place. Maybe the machine they are using is you know emitting too much greenhouse gas, so you have to have a technology that will be designed to kind of reduce the emission, if not to totally remove it. Majority of them, they are coping with this sales, this issue of economy now, so that is one of the things that is causing problem for them to now do pollution control. Our staffs go out to check them, and call their attention to it. But a times, when you give them ultimatum to replace 3 things, they may be able to replace 1, that 2 maybe because of financial problem

I: Thank you sir. A follow up question is what challenges exist in ensuring their adherence to the laws?

R: The problem of financing

I: Ok. Ok. Sir, what specific improvements would you suggest to enhance the effectiveness of Kwara State's legal frameworks in tackling climate change, based on the challenges you've observed?

R: Yes, em... political goodwill, if government is ready to show interest, you know that one will cover many things. It will cover finance; it will cover logistics and so on. Another one is the one of the private entity, that the private entity should show more commitment to financing the legal framework.

I: Lastly sir, on capacity building, how would you rate Kwara State's government institutions' capacity to enforce climate change laws? And what improvements are needed in terms of training, expertise, or resources?

R: We rate them high, and institutions are capable and committed. The area of improvement is capacity building, training and retraining is needed for the workers of the state.

I: Thank you very much sir.

-END OF INTERVIEW-

Government Institution 2

Transcript number: 006

I: Interviewer

R: Respondent

R: Climate em

I: threats

R: Climate threat, what do you mean?

I: Yes...climate threat, when you talk about climate threat, those activities that ah put us in dangerous position in the environment, in the likes of flooding, flood, the excess movement of water, is a threat to us, eh draught is a threat to us, that is, when there is no rainfall for a long time, for planting of stuffs, you can't do that. Some places, the act of cutting trees and burning them or using them to make charcoals, they affect climate also, they affects how the sun...

R: Can we write floods, trees, then refuse dump, dumping of refuse.

I: Yes...ok you want to go with flood and refuse abi?

R: Yes, then tree?

I: Like falling of trees abi?

R: Yeah! Yeah!! Yeah!!!

I: So this is the second one. So having mentioned this ma, I want to ask do you think they have rules and regulations that guides or that controls these things in Kwara state?

R: I don't think so, except dumping of refuse that I know, like they will ask those people living in the environment that they should not dump refuse in the gutters to avoid flood that will be entering the maybe the community or the house

I: Yes, I get

R: I didn't even know about this falling of trees, it's not common in Kwara state

I: It's in Kwara state, it's not common around here

R: Maybe in the city, in the town or rural area, where they make charcoal. They cut a lot of trees down, and they do not plant. There's a law that says when you cut a tree down, you should plant 10 back.

I: Yes

R: So people are not doing that so it's affecting us. When a lot of trees...Maybe dropping of...yeah...those transformers sometimes, when rainfall, like heavy rain, the transformer, like maybe break, and fall into the gutter, it can cause damage

I: Yes, these are the things. Ok, thank you. So want to ask, in your opinion, what are the roles of existing climate laws? What do you think their eh, their goal is?

R: Their what?

I: For putting these law and order, what do you think the government wants to achieve?

R: Ok. Like ok, what you're trying to say is that maybe (inaudible) dump refuse in the gutter, and they are going to arrest them...

I: Yes, what do you think...

R: To protect the community now, to protect them. It will reduce some diseases sef, maybe some like cholera, malaria...

I: Hmm..yes. Ok. Alright. Thank you. This one says local enforcement of private laws, the key challenges that government face in Kwara state, when enforcing climate laws.

R: When they put the laws to the community and they didn't make use of the law

I: Yeah! Ok

R: Yes now, there are laws but people will not make use of it.

I: Ok. How do you think these challenges, how do they different from regions in Nigeria?

R: How do they what?

I: How do they different, like are they different? Like this kind of challenge that you mentioned now that people refuse to obey the law or they do it, do you think they are different or they are, I mean across Nigeria or those challenges are the same?

R: They are the same in some states, because I don't know much about other states but maybe in Osun, Lagos state...

I: Ok. What are the main impacts of climate change in agriculture that you know? Like when those climate, like you know, we have climate changes, maybe instead of normal rainfall, we have short term rain now, we have higher heat, higher sunlight, you know these things will affect crops. So what do you think the effect will be on plants, is it good or bad?

R: It's bad now, it won't let the plant grow, even those farmers will not make much profit on it.

I: Ok. So, this legal frame work in Kwara state and the policies, and national policies, you know in Kwara state we have laws, nationally, we will say there are other laws also, that guides climate policies. How do you think they affect Kwara state agriculture, when they make rules that this and this are what they should do as a farmer, this and this are what they should not do. Over the years, what do you think the announcement of those kinds of rules, what effect has it add or...

R: I don't understand

I: Ok. I take it this way; there are rules guiding how people are able to use things, use places so that it will not affect people in the environment. Over the years, these rules that are brought by the government, how do you think it is affecting the agricultural sector generally, is it having a bad effect, influence on it or a good effect?

R: It's not a bad influence, like if government makes a law that they should not plant maybe...are you talking about they should not plant in the town or in the...

I: No, it could be any law that is important to the development of agriculture. Let's say in places that are like flooded, there are instructions that don't plant anything, don't release water in that part so that it will not cause flooding, or erosion, so that it will not spoil the road path. Now how does it affect agriculture? You said positively bah?

R: Yes, it helps the farmers get better yield by making sure that they monitor them no to do what should not do

I: Role of local communities in law enforcement; how involved are local communities? You know we say there are laws and policies, but the government cannot just carry the law and dump it on people, they will need to communicate to these things to people. So how involved are local communities in enforcing and monitoring climate laws, how do you think those people help in getting those information to the people? Like the rulers and the people assigned to that area.

R: They communicate to their elders now, they must be involved, even though government can make em, make arrangements of sending people to the community just to involve them in what they want to do

I: So in your opinion, what do you think their role is like? Those people that that help disseminate direct information to the...

R: What did you say?

I: Sorry, I wanted to ask that what role do they play in climate adaptation?

R: Who?

I: These people, no, these local people

R: Community?

I: Yes, you know by them saying this is the policy they are bringing, they came to the community to do this and that, what do you think they're trying to do by that?

R: I think they are helping the government to disseminate their information, to make sure everybody is able to live conveniently.

I: Positive role; I think Kwara state local policies and national laws, do you think they align together, like?

R: I don't think so, because I don't even know about it.

I: Ok. Hmm..just this one. So, for these things, there will be, at some points where they will say you have to provide funding to do some things. Who do you think is responsible for funding these kind of projects, to reduce climate issues, in Kwara state?

R: It government now

I: Ok. Government agents. Who manages and distributes these kind of funds?

R: I believe, well maybe the government the agents now, or the elders abi?

I: Ok. Ehn, you're right, it's just your opinion, I'm just trying to...so what role does the funding, ok now, we're talking about the finding of some projects that helps reduce the issues of climate. So what do you think, when people get funding to do or to fix, or to reduce the effect of climate, what do you think the the effect is on them? Those people that get funding, some will get, some communities will get funding to fix their area, some will not. So those people that get, what do you think the effect is on them? Do you think it makes a positive influence on them?

R: There are some areas that, maybe in some towns, they won't allow government to work, but they can use the funding to create channels, to dam a place to reduce flooding

I: Yes, you're right, I understand you

R: Funding will benefit some people, and it will not benefit some people. But they won't like it.

I: I wanted to ask, how effect do you think, this kind of law, how effective do you think they are in Kwara state in protecting vulnerable communities? Let's say places that are prone to

flooding now, do you think all these rules to help people reduce the effect of flood, do you think it's very effective or not?

R: It will help people now, if they make use of it well, because sometimes, government will make laws on some maybe areas about...they won't make use of it, they will just...maybe...

I: Yes. So I want to ask private sector's compliance in Kwara state; yes there are some private sectors that they do things that affect the environment. When government give them rules and regulations, how compliant do you think they are? Do you they obey? Or they still have their reasons to say this is what we will do.

R: I didn't understand the question

I: Some companies release some stuff into the water body after processing and they want to dispose off, most likely they won't want to dispose on the floor, they will want to pour it in the water body so that it will flow away. But there is already a rule that they should not...ehen...that they should find a way. Do you think the government usually have challenge doing this, in getting this done?

R: They will agree now, and find a way not to pour it into the...

I: Ok. what specific measures will you suggest to enhance the Kwara state government's framework in combating climate change, based on the challenges you've mentioned, flood, falling of trees...

R: Dumping of refuse

I: Yes, what improvement do you suggest that could be made by the government of Kwara state to do these ones, to continue the...

R: By maybe people making use of the laws, em...when people make use of the law. They should be sensitized, they also have to train personnels to move around and...

I: Ok. Thank you. So lastly, I want to ask, how would you rate the Kwara state government institution's capacity to enforce climate change laws? From what you've seen from the likes of KWEPA (Kwara state Environmental Agency), these that work around for debris and all, and other law agencies, how would you rate them, let's say on a scale of 1 - 10, are they effective or not effective, in making sure Kwara is clean, is not affected by climate?

R: Let me just say 8

I: Ok, so we can say they are still effective?

R: Yes, because they are trying in some areas though...

I: Alright ma. Thank you very much ma, I think I'm done. Sorry to have taken so much of your time.

R: No no no.

-END OF INTERVIEW-

Government Institution 3

Transcript number: 007

I: Interviewer

R: Respondent

I: We will be commencing the interview now sir. So sir, the first question is what are the main climate-related threats you know of in Kwara state?

R: Hmm...alright. I will say flood and um...draught. Flood and draught

I: Ok sir. Thank you Sir. In your opinion sir, how effective are the existing climate-related legal frameworks as in Kwara State's climate policies and national laws, so how effective are these frameworks in addressing the specific climate challenges faced by the State? Are there even such laws?

R: hmm...yes, laws regarding some climate threats, like em...draught, flooding and refuse dumping are included in the legal framework of the state. And um...some are effective, while some are not.

I: Please sir, can you state the ones that are, and those that are not?

R: Ok. I know that there are laws concerning draught and indiscriminate refuse dumping, and they are very effective. But, the laws that help prevent or let me say manage draught; I don't think they are effective.

I: Ok sir. Thank you Sir. Speaking of roles of climate laws in Kwara state, Sir, in your opinion, what are the roles of existing climate-related legal frameworks in addressing the specific climate challenges faced by the state?

R: Of course to protect the environment, you know, environment protection from pollution that is um...affecting the climate. Even to protect the residents of the state.

I: Ok sir. So sir, what are the key challenges that government agencies in Kwara State may face in enforcing climate change-related laws?

R: Hmm...there are quite a number, but to mention a few, limited access to technology, you know, technological structures, equipments that they can use to mitigate the effect of these em...what do you call it? Threats are not available. Also, the legal structure to tackle these threats is inadequate.

I: Alright Sir, How do you think these challenges differ from other regions in Nigeria sir?

R: I think the challenges um...cut across the country, they are the same, because the Kwara state does not have the needed um technology, because the country has not provided it, so it is a general thing. I don't think the challenges are peculiar to just em...just Kwara state alone.

I: Alright, thank you sir. In your opinion sir, what are the main impacts of climate change on the agricultural sector in Kwara state? I mean the effects

R: Positive or negative

I: Both Sir, positive and negative

R: Alright. Hmm...well I will say the laws, the climate laws have helped to improve and strengthen the sector. There has been improved policy coordination and improved public participation.

I: Hmm...ok sir. Thank you. Moving on, I want to ask sir, how have legal frameworks such as climate policies, agriculture policies and national policies aimed at climate change mitigation impacted Kwara State's agriculture sector, which is particularly vulnerable to climate change effects?

R: I, I don't understand, please take that again

I: Ok sir. I'm saying the climate laws, and policies the government has put in place to mitigate the effect of climate change, how have they impacted the agricultural sector of Kwara state?

R: Ok ok. That's almost like the previous question. You know from the law, the citizens, particularly the farmers have gotten to be aware of um the various environmental threats, the impact of these threats on their farms, and how they can prevent them or let me say reduce the impact.

I: Alright thank you very much sir. Speaking of the participation of local communities in all we've been talking about, how involved do you think local communities are in Kwara State, in enforcing and monitoring climate laws?

R: Ehen...well, I will just say partially, you know they not fully responsible for enforcing those laws, it like um, they are support the state government.

I: Ok sir. So what role do they play in climate adaptation efforts?

R: Like I said, they are working with the other levels of government, so it's like they are helping the state and the federal government at their local level. I mean, they help to enforce those laws, as dictated by the federal and state government.

I: Ok. Thank you sir. The next question is how well do Kwara State's local em climate policies align with national climate laws and international agreements? Are there any gaps in implementation at the state level? This question is asking that do you think there are

em...differences between Kwara state climate laws and the ones at the national and international levels?

R: Ok. No o, I don't think there is any gap or differences o. The ones here are just made to suite the state level, that's all.

I: Thank you very much sir. Moving on, let's talk about funding. What funding resources do you think people get? Like maybe to solve the effect of climate change in a region

R: Hmm...it's government that usually provide funding. The government and also, the world bank can support too.

I: Alright sir. So sir, who manages or distributes these funds?

R: Whichever body is giving it, federal government, state government, etc.

I: Thank you sir. So what role does the funding, or the lack of it, what role does it play in effectively enforcing climate-related legal frameworks in Kwara State? Also do you think there specific areas where more financial support is needed?

R: Well...the funds are used to eliminate environmental threats, they are used to attend to affected places, and proffer solutions generally.

I: Ok sir. We're gradually moving to the end of this interview. So sir, how effective are existing legal frameworks or policies in Kwara State in protecting vulnerable communities from the impacts of climate change?

R: I will say they are very effective.

I: Ok sir, do you think private sector in Kwara State are compliant with environmental and climate-related regulations? And how compliant do you think they are?

R: Yes, they are, they are always compliant.

I: Ok sir. So do you think they face challenges in ensuring their adherence to these laws?

R: Em...I don't know of any.

I: Thank you Sir. What specific improvements would you suggest to enhance the effectiveness of Kwara State's legal frameworks in tackling climate change, based on the challenges you've observed?

R: Well, I will say they should review and rework existing policies in the state concerning climate issues, to make them more understandable for the residents and also easy to obey.

I: Thank you Sir. So before we go, on capacity building, how would you rate Kwara State's government institutions' capacity to enforce climate change laws? What improvements are needed in terms of training, expertise, or resources?

R: They are doing well; however, they need to improve ehn, because there is a lot to be done effectively

-END OF INTERVIEW-

Government Institution 4

Transcript number: 008

I: Interviewer

R: Respondent

I: Ok sir, concerning climate related threats, what are they main climate-related threats that you are aware of in Kwara state, as a ministry?

R: Related-threats? As in? Ok those are the ones we've listed out

I: Ok that you mentioned flooding, draught, rising temperature, soil degradation, pest and diseases and water scarcity I guess?

R: Yes, scarcity.

I: Ok. So based on the listed ones, the six listed ones, the listed related threats, I want to ask that in your own opinion, how effective are the existing climate -related legal framework as Kwara state climate policies in addressing this climate issues?

R: You mean the steps taken by the government?

I: Yes

R: Basically, basically what we do here is creating an awareness to let the people in those areas know based on the information from the NIMET that there's likely to be flood in so so area. But to mitigate all these disaster ehn climate threats, basically what we do is disseminate some information, keep them informed ahead of the disaster.

I: Disaster or the challenges that might arise

R: The challenges that might arise. So we do get all these information from NIMET

I: NIMET ok

R: Yes, once we get the information from NIMET, we get them prepared towards the next raining season, so that whatever that happens along the line, it will not be as if they are not prepared, or they are not even aware. So that's just it.

I: Alright sir

R: Does that answer your question?

I: Yes, it answered that part. So let's say flooding now, if it is included, 'cause there is a space here where it says specify how effective these measure are, like the measures you are taking towards...in your case now you're

R: To control flooding?

I: Yes

R: For instance now, the measures are effective.

I: For flooding sir?

R: In anything. Look at this eh rainy season, this year raining season, ever before now, our farmers, the information has been given to them that this year's raining season will be different from other raining season, that they are going to have what we can true crop ah true crop raining system, eh? So we made them realize that once it is July-August, there will be lengthy stopping of rains, so thereby they should be prepared, towards ending of August, for those farmers that are into all these beans, like em maize and all these related crops, that they should be prepared that ah, after harvesting of maize in mid-August, they should be prepared to plant another by ending of August, though some people are not yield to it, they it's not real, this and that, they leave their crop, farming system till around that, before they begin to plant, they leave it till around that kind of June, and that is why you see most of the farmers are lamenting that their maize and this and that, all these, all their maize are, they don't get the required yield as expected, why because they neglect, they neglected the necessary information. Those that yield to it do not have problem. So that's why I said all the measures put in place are effective, except those the strong-headed ones that didn't harken to the advice.

I: Ok from your end it is effective, but from the end of the farmers

R: Those farmers that comply, but for those that didn't comply, and we can't force them. Everything, the weather is in the hands of God, we're just making efforts.

I: So the flood, the draught, the rising temperature, they are already like included in the framework of what they ministry is working with to make sure...

R: Ok like this coming raining season now, you can see our weather state are...(inaudible)...we take the, we took the data on daily basis. So all these data will be merge together, by August this year, I mean by, the NAERLS people are supposed to come by August this year, but they came late, around that time of September, I mean National Agricultural Extension and Research Learning Services

I: National?

R: Agricultural extension and research learning services

I: Ok. National Agricultural Extension and Research Learning Services

R: They came around September. All the data of January to December, we give it to them, so they are going to analyze it, eh, so with that data, they will forecast what will happen in the

next, by next season. So let's say around that of eh November, the report will come back to us to guide our farmers.

I: I understand sir. So we can already say they are included and they are effective. Roles of climate laws sir, in your opinion, what are the roles of climate related legal framework, addressing specific climate challenges faced in Kwara state?

R: What are the...

I: The roles of the existing climate laws, you know for every of these challenges, there is a law guiding them on how you do what you need to do

R: These laws we're talking about now, so all these carry out by KWEPA, so they are the ones in charge of all these laws.

I: Ok sir. Ok sir. So the challenges that Kwara state government faces in enforcing climate related laws. Do you have em..

R: Ah! Challenges, funding, then their prompt response. All these enforcement of a thing as per climate change has to do with ministry of forestry at KWEPA. So they are the task officers in enforcing the laws, that's why I said you need to meet them.

I: Yes, I'm already working with them, but as a ministry...

R: So we we don't enforce laws on anybody. Even our farmers we only give advice, we just encourage them, if you like take it, if you like don't take it, we just advice them.

I: How do these...ok. ok. In your own opinion, can we say, I understand that it might not be in your framework, as it's written in your framework to enforce it, but do you think those challenges different from regions in Nigeria?

R: The challenges are not different, why because we all know that all these, look at all these people that are into charcoal business, so the rules governing charcoal business is that once you cut 1 tree ehn, you planted, you plant 10. But do they comply? They don't comply. Even those in charge, the task officers, all these forest officers, they do complain that these people use to cut the trees, without planting. They don't even plant anyone, and they are supposed to cut one and plant ten, but they don't plant anyone. That is national rule, but they don't comply.

I: That is one of the frameworks that should have been followed. I think that should be included in the challenges of climate laws also. So sir,

-Break-

I: So sir, we were trying to talk about the challenges in Nigeria and how they different and you were saying there were differences?

R: There is no much difference.

I: Ok. Alright. So sir I was going to ask, what are the impacts of climate change on agriculture?

R: Is it positive or negative?

I: The impact could be positive or negative sir.

R: So the impacts of climate change on agriculture. We have this old mentality, particularly on our farmers. When you see some farmers now, some farmers, when you tell them that this is an improved seed, go and plant it in your farm. After you have convinced him, persuade him or her to go, he will now say ok; he will now say to himself don't let me waste your time, he will just collect it eh. But believe you me, he will not utilize that improved seed on his or her farm. What will he do? He will now say there's a particular seed that he inherited from his grandparents, that he has confidence in that seed than all these agric, all these improve seed. So he will now go and plant that seed, and then the yield he's supposed to be getting, maybe 10 bags of maize eh, at the end of the harvest, he will now be getting maybe three or four bags. With that improved seed, conveniently he will get up to eight or ten, between eight to ten bags. So while those seeds from his grandparents are not longer relevant is that em, even the atmosphere has changed, everything has changed. That seed is talking about, maybe during those days they will say a maize is for three to four months. Do we have the raining season, continuously for good four months now? We don't have it, I mean steadily, continuous eh? We don't have it. But there are some improved seed that if you can plant it, between two months, latest 75 days, you will have your result, especially maize and some other crops. Those seeds have been analyzed, and they discovered that at least, continuously we have nothing less than 90 days raining season, at the peak of the raining season. But for someone to say he has a seed from his grandparents that will take him, or that can be harvested after 120 days, where is he going to make that yield? So as the weather is changing, as the climate is changing, institute ate also working on improved, I'm just trying to add to...on improved, 'cause there some seeds that even when there is no consistent rain, they can still struggle to, in draught, they can still survive. But these farmers' hard-headedness or stubbornness to adopt improved technology is a problem. And what the government, what the policy makers are then doing to address those area is that, they know that the farmer will not comply, so I think we have, this eh management plot, what is it called, management training plot (MTP), so government now adopt that policy, thereby that seed they give you as a farmer, they will now go and plant it beside your farmer. They will not, you will see them when you're going to farm, so will now see, ok, it's like this thing is better than mine o. By then you will be able to say ok, let me subscribe to it.

I: I think that's a better, they will not do that willingly, it's like, it's a matter of seeing is believing. Ok I was going to ask that how are legal framework, such as agricultural policies that are aimed at climate change indication how has it impacted Kwara state in the agricultural sector? But I think this is part of the impact you've mentioned, whereby they've introduce, you called it an MTP program, a policy which helps farmers to adopt gradually even if they were resistant at first, 'cause I was going to ask which... Ok. But will you say that everywhere in Kwara state, the pattern is the same or there are some parts that are vulnerable more than the other part?

R: The rain?

I: Yes, I'm talking about climate change and the major effect I think, for farmers, the rainfall

R: Hmm...for instance now, like in Kwara North, so the the rain in Kwara South is more more higher. The people of Kwara South have more raining period than in the Kwara North. The rain start in, the rain start in Kwara North, like for this year now, in Kwara South, those that planted their crops like in April now, they'll make it, in Kwara South, but you can't do that in Kwara North.

I: You must have planted early?

R: No later than that, late May or early June. So the raining pattern is not the same. And perhaps in Kwara central, they have their own rain even earlier than in Kwara South, like that kind of March now, they've been experiencing rain.

I: So that gives them the opportunity to plant

R: To plant ahead, before other geopolitical zone.

I: So these kind of places, are there, since you said there are improved varieties, seeds, based on a region, is it possible that they sidelined a region, for example now in Kwara central, Kwara South and Kwara North. For example in producing improved seeds, for those that have early rain, is it possible that they don't get the advantage of giving them improved seed due to the issue of climate?

R: No, they have them, the three zones were given improved seeds, it's just that we monitor them and we sensitize them on where, on when to start their planting season. So we tell them that in Kwara North o, your planting season is May, on May.

I: Ok sir. Thank you Sir. Moving on sir, how involved are local communities in Kwara state in enforcing or monitoring climate laws?

R: Local communities? Climate change or climate laws?

I: Climate laws, climate change laws, if you want to put it like that; I mean laws that affect...

R: The only, what the local communities use to do is that they use to notify the government. For instance, what do they call them? All these people that normally, all these local miners, they don't have license, they will just dabble into one village, and begin to look for mineral resources. So before you know, they have created a lot of damages in those villages. So the local community, the community leaders cannot, cannot stop them, rather they will report them to the government, so it is the government that will now stop them and do the necessary prosecution on them. A times, they will ask them to pay for damage, or they relocate them somewhere else. So all these laws are not directly in the hands of community leaders, their own is just inform the government that this is.

I: I was going to...the next question is what role do they play in climate adaptation effort? The local communities now, we're asking of their role in enforcing or monitoring climate, we say they give necessary update to the appropriate authorities to take necessary actions. So their roles now in the adapt...in adapting those climate laws. What do you think their role is?

R: The local government, the local people. It's to have proper sensitization, sensitize the people, to encourage them, because the government officials cannot...don't really know the farmers, don't really know the farms, yes; they are the ones closest to the farmers. So this demonstrating plug that we talked about, they can monitor it and by giving proper em management the breeding, taking time in you know fertilizer application, you know, you get what I'm saying? So I think they can, I think that's their own role, because they are closer to the farmers.

I: Ok, thank you ma. How well do Kwara state local climate policy align with national climate laws, and international agreement?

R: The question again

I: Like we have an agreement of climate policies right in Kwara state. I'm now saying we have national laws that cut across climate policies. I'm not saying with the ones in Kwara state, how well do they align? Is the one in Kwara state distinctively different totally from what national policies will be saying about climate policy or there is a relationship between them? For the likes of ehn climate change act, are there any gaps between them?

R: There is no any gap, if there will be gap, it will be based on the geopolitical, the geographical zone, because South-South, you know they are prone to flood, so the way they do their things, will be different from the Northerners, you get. So it's going to differ based on the geographical this thing, but there should be cordial relationship, we believe that there should be cordial relationship.

I: Ok. I want to now talk on the aspect of funding. What funding resources do you think people get? Farmers in this case and communities that are prone to climate-related issues. What funding do you, what funding resources, resources?

R: Once there is a disaster at any particular in time, so the government used to support them. You know when you say support, it's not hundred percent, but at least the state government used to assist in some cases. Once it gets to the government, government used to support them, but em, not hundred percent.

I: Are you saying monetarily?

R: They used to buy them mattress and some other things, just to reduce the hardship on them, just to cushion the effects. Like the other one, in the last two, last year that people were coming from em Bida, people were coming from Bida and their boat capsized; their boat capsized at ah Patigi River. So government use to, government give family of deceased some amount of money, but you know, money cannot bring back a soul. So that's just it. Although, we encourage them to do more.

I: Ok. For the sake of the question, who distributes or manage this funds that are meant to be used to cushion the effect of climate change?

R: State and federal government now, state and federal government are the ones that use to give out the money.

I: So I want to that is that, is it the state government alone that intervene in such or we have more or less private bodies or parastatals that...

R: Private bodies don't use to come in o, only the state government. Even when the federal government wants to give, it will come through the state government. It's the state government that will handle the distribution, by so doing the state government has to put some amount of money, to add to it, just to make it a little bit meaningful.

I: So what role does fUnding or lack of it, like you mentioned the other time, that some get the funding, some don't. Either way both parties are affected, but not all get the intervention. Ehen, so what role does the funding or the lack of it plays in effectively enforcing climate-related legal framework in Kwara state. Ok let's leave the law aspect, the law make it sound very...but those policies that are being applied to help mitigate to reduce the effect of...

R: But do you know what? If government release funds, and some people are able to get the fund, there is no doubt in it, it will have a positive impact on them. The climate is something we not eradicate, we can only mitigate it. So by giving them the money, we're mitigating the climate change, whereby, maybe there is a flood here now, and government give us support, maybe before the flood or after the disaster, with that support, we will be able to move out of

that area to settle in a safer place. That's why we said the climate change cannot be eradicated but we can mitigate it.

I: I understand sir. Are there specific area where more financial support is needed?

R: Like...we need money in flooding. If all these drainages are well designed, constructed and designed, it will reduce flooding, definitely. The one that is very closer to us here, Isalekoko, Isalekoko in Ilorin, you don't know Isalekoko? When you're going to Oja-Oba, you know Gambari, there is a road going interior like this, that is Isalekoko. Every year, there use to be flood disaster in that area, as a result of you know this unity, that channel...so if that drainage were fully designed, though the project is still ongoing. If the project can be completed, I tell you, they will not witness anything like flood in those areas again, they will not. So draining of our water ways can also prevent...

I: Talking about, ok we're em their financial support...so how effective are existing policies in Kwara state in protecting vulnerable communities, like communities that are affected like what you just said, the Isalekoko, like flood-prone areas, so how effective are those policies in protecting those from the impact of climate change?

R: Ah..the policies are not effective, why because, you know I told you that draining of those waterways is an ongoing project, like it's a continuous exercise, and the project is a little bit slow, infact it's too slow, not a little bit. So as a result of that, government has warned the people of those areas not to engage in building more houses, towards those water ways, but you know, as a result of fund, if you want to buy a land in a good place in Ilorin now, you will be required to have a million naira for a plot of land. But in those places now, once you just see the community leaders, "do you want a plot of land?" Bring hundred thousand, bring twelve thousand. You give them twelve thousand; they allocated a plot of land. You get it? So the policies in place are not effective.

I: So I wanted to ask that how compliant is the private sector in Kwara state with environment and climate-related regulations? How compliant is the private sector in Kwara state with environmental policies, environmental regulations and climate policies?

R: Kwara state government?

I: Private sectors

R: Ah... there's nobody that monitors them now so we can't really say. The private sector, I want to believe they comply, why because, they have their own contact in managing their company for them and they give them rules. Even in Kwara state now, even the Kwara state government itself, use to engage consultant help to manage their climate change in some places.

I: Ok sir. But are there any challenge that exists in ensuring those adherence, those compliance, that you know of?

R: Yes there is now, that's why I said you have to go to KWEPA. Now, sometimes around April this year, should heard it on radio now or on TV. If you're going on the road now, maybe you eat something or you drop something, and incidentally you just drop the can on the road when you're going, they charge you with fifty thousand naira. They arrest you and you're going to be released upon the payment of fifty thousand naira. So if you're lucky, you drop your waste on the road, if they don't see you, they don't see you. But once they caught you, they arrest you, and you will be charged with fifty thousand naira.

I: What specific improvement would you suggest to enhance the effectiveness of this ah policies and frameworks?

R: What?

I: Specific improvement would you suggest?

R: They government should try more, then their response should be very prompt. I think I said something like that. Yes, should be timely and very very prompt. If you want to, like for example now, input distribution, it should be timely, not that it's after the raining season that you give farmers the seeds to plant, or you want to give fertilizers to farmers, you're bringing it around August or September, when people are preparing for harvesting. Then they should provide mobility for our ... agents so that they can move around to easily assess farms. Then another thing the government can do is that they can help the farmers on irrigation, and supply them with, you know all those things sha.

I: Ok sir. I think the one you mentioned earlier, in number 9 when I started the interview, the effectiveness of existing legal framework; you listed afforestation, irrigation, climate smart...

R: You know in some countries today, they don't depend on rain for farming. Whether there is sufficient rain or not, it's none of their business. What they depend on majorly is irrigation. The rain is just an addition. Maximum of rain they have in a year is 2 to 3, 2 to 3, and they are into cropping. What will they do? They invest in irrigation. So if government, Kwara state government, the Nigerian government can invest in irrigation, we will not have problem. So with irrigation, one can harvest 3 to 4 times in a year, you plant throughout the year, you harvest throughout the year.

I: How would you rate Kwara state government institution's capacity to enforce climate change laws or policy?

R: Well averagely they are trying. Why because they enact laws but the enforcement is not...

I: What are the improvements that are needed in terms of training of expertise? I think what you have said has captured it. You mentioned timely response to challenges. Those are improvements that could be made.

R: Once you enact some policies, you have some resource persons that will carry out that training, so basically, you just have to train them, so there are trainees or trainer round the year.

-END OF INTERVIEW-

Government Institution 5

Transcript number: 020

I: Interviewer

R: Respondent

I: We'll commence now, sir what are the main climate-related threats in Kwara state?

R: Hmm... the major climate threats that we have in Kwara state are drop down of water level, that's drought, then flooding, , irregular rainfall patterns also.

I: Ok, thank you sir, do you know if there are legal frameworks to address climate issues?

R: Of course, there are programs set to address climate change problems, there are laws concerning it.

I: Ok sir, so in your opinion, how effective are the existing climate-related legal frameworks in addressing the specific climate challenges faced by Kwara State?

R: They are not so effective, but as the ministry, or let me say government agencies, we try our best to em, ensure the enforcement of the laws in the various parts of Kwara state. There are laws, and there are fines attached to it, and anyone caught, will face the consequences.

I: Ok sir, so I want to ask that what are the roles of the existing climate-related legal frameworks in addressing the specific climate challenges faced by Kwara State?

R: Majorly to ensure that people live rightly and do the right things, as regards maintenance of the climate, such as ensuring environmental hygiene, and the likes, to ensure that the activities of people do not contribute to the already poor climate condition.

I: Alright thank so much for that. So what do you think are the key challenges that government agencies in Kwara State face in enforcing climate change-related laws? And how do these challenges differ from other states or regions in Nigeria?

R: The problem of compliance

I: Is it by the general public or by different parastatals?

R: By the general public, you know we have the laws to protect the people and mitigate all these climate problems, but you see the residents, the people generally to not adhere, or comply with our rules. Ehn so these is a major issue we face, and that some of our colleagues in other states complain of.

I: Hmm...Thank you sir. Moving on, what are the impacts of climate change in the agricultural sector?

R: You see it disrupts the farming activities, ehn such that farmers end up with poor quality of products, and in very small amount sometimes, you know when rainfall is low, and things like that, what the farmers end up with is poor. Also, the nutrient in the soil is depleted, because of cases of flooding and the likes.

I: Ok sir. So how has the laws, the climate laws impacted the agricultural sector, which is particularly vulnerable to climate change effects?

R: The framework sometimes permit that farmers are provided with seed funds, and other relief materials, so as to help improve their yields, and generally help them to be productive despite the poor climate.

I: Thank you sir. How involved do you think the local communities are in Kwara State in enforcing and monitoring climate laws? And what role do they play in climate adaptation efforts?

R: Hmm...ok, they contribute to helping to enforce these existing laws in their various communities, you know they are closer to the people, and they are more familiar with them, so they interpret the laws to them in ways that are easily acceptable to their people. They are the ones that also help us to catch offenders of these our laws too.

I: Thank you sir, speaking of coordination between laws, how do you think Kwara state laws and policies align with national climate laws and international agreements?

R: Kwara laws align, you see all the laws we have here, that we enforce, are aligned with the national laws, we just make sure that the ones we have here fit into our state's climate nature, for us to get the best result.

I: Alright sir. Moving on, about the funding of the laws, what funding resources do you think people get, and also who manages the distribution of these funds?

R: Our government gives the bulk of funds whenever it is needed, it just that they will do that through our ministries here, that's the state ministries, so the government gives funds. We also have situations where NGOs will decide to fund a climate project. We get foreign funds too once in a while.

I: Ok, so what is the role of this funding that they provide? And what area do you think needs special funding?

R: I personally don't think there is a special area to be funded, everything should be funded for a complete job, and these funds is just to help us in the smooth running of our work here, to help us enforce the laws and carry out inspections too.

I: Alright sir. How effective are existing legal frameworks that is, policies in Kwara State in protecting the vulnerable communities from the impacts of climate change?

R: Hmm... in protecting the vulnerable communities, the laws are trying, I won't say they are completely effective, but they are trying, those communities now, when they properly obey the laws, they experience lesser, I mean the magnitude of the occurrence of these threats in their communities have reduced, even if they have not been completely eradicated.

I: Thank you sir. How compliant is that the private sector in Kwara State with environmental and climate-related regulations? And also, what are the challenges that exist in ensuring their adherence to these laws is?

R: Ehn we fine them if they are not compliant, so I will say they have no choice but to be compliant, they are compliant to a reasonable extent, they may just be faced with the issue of finance for full compliance, but to my own view, they are compliant.

I: Ok sir. So what specific improvements would you suggest to enhance the effectiveness of Kwara State's legal frameworks in tackling em climate change?

R: It will be good if we're able to enforce these laws appropriately, we will get the desired result like that, they we need more staffs, especially for the inspections, and other field work

I: Thank you so much sir. Lastly, how would you rate Kwara State's government institutions' capacity to enforce climate change laws? What improvements are needed in terms of training, expertise, or resources?

R: Kwara state government is really trying, they can just add trainings to our programs, they should regularly train staffs.

I: Thank you sir for you time.

-END OF INTERVIEW-

RESEARCH INSTITUTES (3)

Research Institution 1

Transcript number: 001

I: Interviewer

R: Respondent

I: Now the first question ma, talking about climate-related threats, what are the main climate-related threats in the Kwara State that you know of?

R: Hmm..ok. Erratic Rainfall, Flooding and droughts. Em...green-House gas Emission too

I: Ok ma. Thank you so much. Now, we want to talk about the effectiveness of climate laws in this state. You know there are climate laws in Kwara state right?

R: Yes.

I: Ok good. So In your opinion, how effective are the existing climate-related legal frameworks, I mean climate policies and national laws, in addressing the specific climate challenges faced by Kwara State? The challenges you mentioned ma.

R: Yes, I understand. They're all effective o. um, to me, all the laws, concerning flooding and the likes are very effective, as long as they are obeyed.

I: Alright ma. Thank you. So in your opinion, what are the roles of existing climate-related legal frameworks in addressing the specific climate challenges faced by Kwara State?

R: Of course those laws are to protect the people now, they are to reduce loss of lives and properties, and to prevent um, to prevent environmental hazards.

I: Ok. Any other things? Ok thank you ma. So ma, what do you think are the key challenges that government agencies in Kwara State face in enforcing climate change-related laws? How do these challenges differ from other regions in Nigeria?

R: Again please

I: Ok. Sorry ma. I was asking that um what do you think are the key challenges that government agencies face in Kwara state, in enforcing these laws they've put in place?

R: Ok. You see, one major challenge that I see that enforcing laws face is um refusal to obey those laws. You earlier ehn, earlier I said the laws are effective as long as they are obey. The major problem is that they are not usually obey, or let me say they are not em...fully obeyed. So other challenges that they can encounter include um weak institutional mode of operation in fight against climate threats, inadequate funding from the government to even enforce the

laws, you get. Also let me add that em poor capacity building and technical skills for the staffs, the government officials that will help enforce those laws.

I: Thank you so much ma. So the second part of the question now say, for the challenges you have listed eh, how do they differ from other regions in Nigeria?

R: Em...me I don't think they are different o, these challenges can be seen abi experienced in the various parts of the country.

I: Thank you so much ma. Moving on, talking about the impact of climate change in the agricultural sector of the state, that is Kwara state? Or it has not affected the agricultural sector at all?

R: Ah! It has affected it o, it has. It has caused em food insecurity, you know, the produce, the yield of farmers' crops have reduced a lot. Also, there's erosion, and you know when there is erosion like that, the soil, the seeds sef are washed away, that also results in low yield.

I: Thank you ma. So ma, how has the laws, I mean climate laws and policies that are aimed at climate change mitigation, how have they impacted the agricultural sector, which as you've agreed in your explanation now is particularly vulnerable to climate change effects?

R: Well, let me simply say it has em helped improve the livelihood of the communities in the vulnerable areas. You know, since the laws help to reduce the em climate effect, the yield from farmers is improved, and em their crops grow well sha.

I: Alright. Thank you ma. So ma, how involved do you think local communities in Kwara State are in enforcing and monitoring climate laws? Also, can you tell us the role they play in climate adaptation efforts?

R: They are trying, ah...they are trying. You know locally, they help to monitor abi let me say reduce illegal dumping of waste along roadside and streams in the environments. So they are trying.

I: Thank you so much ma. Ma, concerning the laws and policies we've been talking about, how well do you think Kwara state laws and policies, align with national climate laws and international agreements? Or do you think they are distinctively different?

R: Ah...well, Kwara State's local climate policies align with some national climate laws and international agreements, but there are areas that em I feel could be improved.

I: Thank you ma. Now let's talk about funding for climate laws enforce...enforcement. I will like to ask ma, what funding resources do you think people get, and also who em manage, who manages the distribution of these funds?

R: Hmm...I know there are some governing bodies concerned with that, or let me say responsible for funding the people. So majorly, I will say it's the government, government and

their agencies that are responsible for the management of the the funds, the government across levels.

I: Ok ma. So what role does funding or the lack of it that is when there is no funding, what role do they play in effectively enforcing climate-related legal frameworks in Kwara State? Do you think there are specific areas that need more financial support?

R: Ah! There is no special area o. All the climate threats cause problem so me I will not say there is a specific area that needs em..em...more funding. If there's no funding, then they can't enforce their laws now. The funding though helps officials to em easily reach the people and enforce the laws.

I: Thank you very much ma. According to you ma, how effective are existing legal frameworks that is policies in Kwara State in protecting the vulnerable communities from the impacts of climate change?

R: Ehn...you see existing legal frameworks in Kwara State, have not really been effective in protecting all those vulnerable communities from the impacts of em climate change ehn..it is trying o, but they are not completely protected, they still experience some impacts

I: Alright ma. So ma, how compliant is the private sector in Kwara State with environmental and climate-related regulations? And also, what are the challenges that exist in ensuring their adherence to these laws is?

R: Ah! Private sectors? I think they are very compliant o, shebi it's for everybody's good? They are compliant. Em...I don't now know of any form of challenges they might be experiencing o, but they are compliant.

I: Alright ma, thank you ma. So what specific improvements would you...sorry, would you suggest to enhance the effectiveness of Kwara State's legal frameworks in um...in tackling climate change, based on the challenges you've observed? Like generally now.

R: What I will recommend abi? They should train more personnels, it will make the work easier. Also, government should find ways to get people more sensitized about em this em climate change issues, and also the laws they've put in place.

I: Thank you so much ma. So for the last question, in your own judgement, how would you rate Kwara State's government institutions' capacity to enforce climate change laws? What improvements are needed in terms of training, expertise, or resources?

R: The improvements? Ah! They should train more and also provide more resources to vulnerable communities. Hmm..if I should rate them over ten...I will give them...six, six over ten.

I: Thank you so so much ma for your time and responses. We've come to the end of the interview.

-END OF INTERVIEW-

Research Institution 2

Transcript number: 002

I: Interviewer

R: Respondent

I: So sir, the first question says what are the main climate-related threats in Kwara state?

R: Ok, the major threats...ok, I will say flood and draught

I: Thank you sir. Moving on to the second question, in your opinion sir, how effective do you think the existing climate-related legal frameworks such as Kwara State's climate policies and national laws are in addressing the specific climate challenges faced by Kwara State? Before you answer sir, let me quickly ask that are there climate-related legal frameworks or policies?

R: Oh! Yes there are a lot of them.

I: Alright Sir, how effective are they then, I mean the existing climate-related legal frameworks in em addressing the specific climate challenges faced by the State?

R: Not all are effective, some are, while some are not. Like the one for draughts now, the policies surrounding drought are not effective, unlike the ones they listed for flooding, those ones I can say are em...effective.

I: Alright sir, thank you sir. In your opinion, what are the roles of existing climate-related legal frameworks in addressing the specific climate challenges faced by Kwara State? What roles do you think they play?

R: Alright, one is to reduce the impact of climate threat, and so for places where they are properly em...implemented or enforced, they help reduce the impact of these threats. Another thing is that they help create awareness in the local communities about the existence of these climate threats.

I: Thank you Sir. Moving on, on the local enforcement of the climate laws, what are the key challenges that government agencies in Kwara State face in enforcing climate change-related laws? And how do these challenges differ from other regions in Nigeria?

R: You see, the government has those policies stated for the threats for which they provided it o, but they lack effective enforcement strategies and mechanisms...ehn. There are quite a few things sef. They have weak institutional instruments for managing em...the environment against climate change, there little or no funding, or capacity building or even technical skills

on the part of government employees, and like the major problem in Nigeria, there is corruption among the staffs of the regulatory agencies, you know? People get away with not abiding by em...these policies. So you see that there's quite a lot of challenges.

I: Yes, that's quite a lot. Thank your sir for that. Moving on, what do you think are the main impact of climate change on agriculture?

R: Ah...you know flooding leads to erosion on the farms, and when this happens, it will reduce the em...produce, quantity of produce of this farmer. You know what they cumulative effect of this will be? It will cause food scarcity for the state and our nation. In fact, it increases poverty. So the impact on agriculture is actually negative.

I: Hmm...thank you sir much sir for that. So how have legal frameworks such as climate policies, agriculture policies and national policies aimed at climate change mitigation impacted Kwara State's agriculture sector, which is particularly vulnerable to climate change effects?

R: Ah...not much o, truth be told, the impact on agriculture has not been encouraging, it has not been encouraging at all.

I: Ok, alright sir. Moving on, how involved are local communities in Kwara State in enforcing and monitoring climate laws?

R: Well, those ones are trying, they are highly involved.

I: So what role do you see that they play in climate adaptation efforts?

R: Ok, They help prevent illegal dumping of refuse, wastes along roadside closure, rivers, adjoining streams in neighbourhoods and gutters on major and minor roads. You know all these refuse dumping, if not checked, it can cause blockage of water ways, and that's what results in em...flooding. So they are trying at their own level.

I: Thank you sir, how well do you think Kwara State's local climate policies align with national climate laws and international agreements like the Climate Change Act and UNFCCC commitments?

R: Ehn...yes, Kwara state's local climate policies align with some national climate laws and international agreements, but you see, like they say, there is always room for improvement, ehen, so there are areas, that could be improved, so that's it.

I: Alright sir, so are there any gaps in implementation at the state level?

R: Yes, there are some little little gaps, that's why I said there can be room for improvement.

I: Ok, thank you sir. So now, on the issue of funding, what funding resources do people get?

R: Government, you know, what the government agencies offer them.

I: Ok sir, so who manages and distributes these funds?

R: Ehn...the government agencies or their employees

I: Ok sir, what role does funding or the lack of it play in effectively enforcing climate-related legal frameworks in Kwara State? Also, are there any specific areas where more financial support is needed?

R: Ok. You see, funding from the government, for those that receives it, it helps in the timely and effective intervention, but for those that don't receive it...you know ehn...it will be the opposite. Hmm...special area for funding, I can think of any now.

I: Thank you sir, on the effectiveness of climate change mitigation for vulnerable communities, How effective are existing legal frameworks or policies in Kwara State, in protecting vulnerable communities for example rural or flood-prone areas from the impacts of climate change?

R: Well, the existing legal frameworks in Kwara state have unfortunately not been effective in protecting em...vulnerable communities from the impacts of climate change

I: Ok sir. So how compliant is the private sector in Kwara State with environmental and climate-related regulations?

R: Em...they are highly compliant

I: What challenges exist in ensuring their adherence to these laws?

R: I don't think they face any serious challenge in ensuring their adherence.

I: Ok sir, we're rounding off in few minutes. What specific improvements would you suggest to enhance the effectiveness of Kwara State's legal frameworks in tackling climate change, based on the challenges you've observed?

R: Hmm...I will recommend that they strengthen the enforcement of the laws and policies, the implementation mechanisms, and compliance of the people, with these climate change regulations.

I: Ok sir, thank you very much sir. Lastly, how would you rate Kwara State's government institutions' capacity to enforce climate change laws? And what improvements will you say are needed in terms of training, expertise, or resources?

R: Well...the state government is doing well, but additionally, I will advise that em...they constitute a functioning committee on climate acts, to train more personnel, are you getting me now, to oversee the implementation of all these existing policies.

I: Thank you so much sir for you time and insights. We have come to the end of the interview.

-END OF INTERVIEW-

Research Institution 3

Transcript number: 003

I: Interviewer

R: Respondent

I: We will begin the interview now, with this question. What are the main climate-related Threats in the Kwara States?

R: Hmm...climate-related threats...ok some climate-related threats in Kwara state include erratic rainfall, flooding, droughts and dumping of refuse in canals. That dumping of refuse is even very common among local traders in the market.

I: Alright. So you mentioned erratic rainfall, flooding, droughts and dumping of refuse in canals.

Ok. Thank you sir, another question is in your opinion, how effective are the existing climate-related legal frameworks in addressing the specific climate challenges faced by Kwara State? Are there even legal frameworks to address these challenges?

R: Em...well, I know there are policies regarding flooding and dumping of refuse, and if you ask me, those policies are very effective.

I: Ok sir. So In your opinion, what are the roles of existing climate-related legal frameworks such as Kwara State's climate policies and national laws in addressing the specific climate challenges faced by Kwara State? We're asking of the functions of those policies that you say exists now.

R: Ehn...there are quite a number of them, but the major thing or role is that em, they are used to eradicate threats that are caused by climate changes. Also, they keep people under check and contribute to the improvement of the climate abi climatic conditions.

I: Thank you very very much sir. So sir, what are the key challenges that government agency in Kwara State face in enforcing climate change-related laws? How do these challenges differ from other regions in Nigeria?

R: Hmm...

I: Like does the government not encounter any challenges when they want to enforce these laws? And also, are the challenges different across Nigeria or they are the same?

R: Ok. There are challenges actually. To me, they don't have, I mean the government now, they don't have effective ways of fighting climate related threats, ehn, because they don't have adequate strategies, and mechanisms to enforce the laws they have. There are policies

but they may not be entirely effective. Also, they lack funding and technical skills that they need to combat such things or issues as climate change

I: Alright, thank you sir for that response. So I will like to ask sir, what are the main impacts of climate change on agriculture?

R: Ah...there are quite a lot o. It causes soil erosion, these results in post harvest loss, you know, the yield is greatly reduced. And when farmers don't have much to harvest, there will be food insecurity in the land. There could also be disease outbreaks, so there quite a number of effects on agriculture.

I: Thank you Sir. Sir, how do you think legal frameworks such as climate policies, agriculture policies and national policies aimed at climate change mitigation have impacted Kwara State's agriculture sector, which is particularly vulnerable to climate change effects?

R: Ehn...it has helped to improve the livelihood of communities in vulnerable areas of the state.

I: Ok sir. Speaking of the roles of local communities in law enforcement, how involved are local communities in Kwara State in enforcing and monitoring climate laws, and what role do they play in climate adaptation efforts?

R: They are the ones that um...how do I put it now, they help to ensure the effectiveness of the policies of the government in the communities, they help to monitor and prevent illegal dumping of wastes along roadside closures, streets, neighborhoods and gutters.

I: Thank you sir. So how well do you think Kwara State's local climate policies align with national climate laws and international agreements for example the Climate Change Act? In addition, are there any gaps in implementation at the state level?

R: Local climate policies align with some national climate laws and international agreements, although there are still some gaps in terms of reaching the vulnerable areas. It's as if um those policies are not properly translated to suite the local communities.

I: Alright sir. Speaking of funding, what funding resources do people get?

R: Ehn...it's the governing bodies, the government that gives funds to farmers and the affected communities in the times of disasters, or when those threats occur.

I: Ok sir, thank you sir, so who then manages and distributes these funds?

R: Ok...the management of the funds is also by the government, they are the ones that handle the distribution of the funds and other materials that they may want to give the affected residents in their various local offices.

I: Noted sir, thank you sir, moving on, what role does funding, or the lack thereof, play in effectively enforcing climate-related legal frameworks in Kwara State?

R: Hmm...You see, when there is enough funding in any program, there is proper and easy running of such program, so in this case, em, climate law implementation or enforcement, when there is funding, it helps to fast-track the enforcement of those laws or let me say policies, that means if there is no funding, you know, there won't be proper implementation.

I: Thank you very much sir. So I will like to ask sir, are there specific areas where you think more financial support is needed?

R: Um...None, all the areas needs funding for proper running.

I: Ok sir. So how effective are existing legal frameworks or policies in Kwara State, in protecting vulnerable communities for example, rural or flood-prone areas from the impacts of climate change?

R: Well, you see, legal frameworks have not been so effective in protecting vulnerable communities from the impacts of climate change in Kwara state, those parts that experience those climate threats, still experience them, they are still vulnerable

I: Ok sir, thank you . Speaking of private sector compliance in Kwara state, How compliant do you think they are with environmental and climate-related regulations? Also do you think any challenge exist in ensuring their adherence to these laws?

R: Hmm...in my own opinion, they are very compliant, you know we fine non-compliance, so they are very complaint. About the challenges they face, well, I wouldn't know, but I don't think they particularly face any form of challenge in complying with the environmental laws.

I: Thank you, in your own view sir, what specific improvements would you suggest to enhance the effectiveness of Kwara State's legal frameworks in tackling climate change, based on the challenges you've observed?

R: Hmm...Ok, I would suggest that they invest or work on training more personnel, you know the more trained staffs they have, the more they will be able to do in enforcing the laws they've created. Also, they need a better approach to creating timely awareness mechanisms towards climate change acts, people have to know about this climate change stuff.

I: Alright sir, lastly, how would you rate Kwara State's government institutions' capacity to enforce climate change laws, and what improvements are needed in terms of training, expertise, or resources?

R: They are doing well, at least they are doing better than before, and I um, believe that there is still room for improvement. The improvement are all those ones I've listed, trainings cannot be em, overemphasized.

I: Thank you very much sir.

-END OF INTERVIEW-

PUBLIC SECTOR (2)

Public Sector 1

Transcript number: 013

I: Interviewer

R: Respondent

I: I want to start by asking sir, what are the main climate-related threats in Kwara state that you're aware of sir?

R: Well climate-related threats in Kwara state, like any other place especially in Nigeria are simple and straightforward, the climate is changing as some weather activities, including the fact that em, in Kwara state now, it's a little bit difficult to predict on set of rainfall, so we have uncertainty in the level at which we can predict it, and of course we're beginning to experience what we call erratic rainfall patterns, while you cannot predict the onset, you cannot also predict the offset, that is the cessation, when the rain will cease to fall. After that we are beginning to experience increase or rise in temperature and of course we are having more dryness in some part of the year, and of course some part of Kwara state, especially those that are close to the river side are experiencing flooding as it were. So if you ask me, these are basic climate change issues that Kwara state have got to deal with, one increase temperature, erratic rainfall and of course flooding. These are major climate activities in Kwara state.

I: Thank you very much sir, that's about it. I was going to ask sir, concerning the ones that you've listed flooding, dryness, erratic rainfall and increase in temperature, are you aware if they are included in Kwara state framework that is related to climate laws?

R: Ehn you know Kwara state does not have any regulatory framework to address increasing climate change. What Kwara people have is the Kwara state environmental protection agency law, ok, that law was propagated in 1992, so we have what we call KWEPA, Kwara Environmental Protection Agency. The law was amended in 2006, and what it deals with basically has to do with em, regulating industrial waste discharge, especially industrial waste, and of course it is also that law that includes environmental sanitation. You're aware that the last Saturday of every month in Kwara state, the state normally observes a sanitation program from 7am to around 9 or 10am. So that law is what regulates that activity, and of course that law also looks into discharge of pollutant into the atmosphere by industries, so it has a board,

it has a parastatal, which I mentioned earlier on which is the KWEPA. So as for climate change, there's no regulation or law, there are Acts, it is that climate change Act of 2021 that every state is expected to key into, it is more of rhetoric than an action. It is supposed to be an action-based plan, there is no life given to implementing those activities. The climate change Act is also a response to global initiatives with respect to the conference of the p... that is the COP, all these eh COP'27, COP'28, COP'29, so the country is just saying ok, what can we do? The country has come up with a climate change Act, but how much of that act is implemented is another thing entirely. So coming down to Kwara state, the response to your question is to say there is no Act, so there is nothing to discuss. I hope that is understood?

I: Yes, very well sir. That will make me skip other leading questions sir. But if I may ask, concerning the KWEPA, I was going to ask, what are the challenges you think this agency face in enforcing the um, policies in the community or environment?

R: Well, ordinarily I'm not supposed to speak for the agency, I'm not part of the agency, I don't know how they go about their activities, but the problem is the same everywhere, and it is well know. For me, the very first issue for anybody who wants to claim and iota of seriousness with respect to addressing issues of the environment generally, the first thing to be addressed is awareness, there is obvious general lack of awareness with respect to the need to have a healthy environment. People have not generally come to terms with why it is important to have a healthy environment and when they have come to that realization, the activities, the action need to achieve that healthy environment is also lacking, so if you ask me, which I will extend to KWEPA now, I think the first thing is that there is no awareness. Even the government circle, it is usually more of lips-services than being serious and proactive in terms of doing the right thing. I will say that agency needs to embark on creating awareness within the larger community, to ensure that they larger community understand its mandate, I mean the mandate that the agency is saddled with, so after awareness they will now need resources, they need to now map out actions, and implement the action. But most of the time, people are just comfortable with collecting their salaries, and everybody you know...so for me, I think awareness is the first thing, not just for the citizens but for those in the government themselves to be able to appreciate and understand the need to have a healthy environment, which includes tree planting, proper waste disposal, preventing the emission of green house gases.

I: Alright thank you very much sir. That is very broad for me to understand. I'm going to be asking you of the impact of climate change on agriculture sir

R: Yes, climate change affects every facet of our lives, and with respect to agriculture, when you cannot predict the onset of rainfall with certainty, obviously it will affect your growing season, you don't know when to cultivate the land, so that will affect food security, which will affect crops yield, and of course it also affect the outbreak of pest and diseases and how to fight them. Some of these pest and diseases are becoming resistant as a result of adaptation and change within the environment. Food insecurity results in hike in price of food products. Of course this is not limited to just crop alone, it affect live stocks.

I: Ok, alright sir, moving on sir, how involved is local communities in Kwara state in enforcing or trying to monitor these climate change issues or means of mitigating them

R: Well, em...local communities have their own indigenous system with which they deal with their own issue of the environment, including mixed cropping system, including um...trying to do mulching, including you know delayed time of planting and harvesting, these are general thing but the current wave of climate change requires broader technical knowledge as well as understanding, that intensify the way and manner the local people are able to respond. So beyond the local community, we will need the government as a body of authority to mobilize the relevant agency to work with the local communities. There is always little the local communities will achieve with respect to tackling the menace of climate change. They will require new cropping system, they will require improved crop varieties including animal varieties. I am aware of civil organizations in form of NGOs who work with the local communities. On their own, the local communities are usually helpless.

I: Thank you very much sir. You mentioned earlier that there is no particular policy that is peculiar to Kwara state, but there is an Act that cut across the country, concerning environmental sanitation and all, so I want to ask if you think there is a gap in implementation of these policies across different state.

R: My response earlier was to say there is no specific law on climate change, there is a climate change Act of 2021 for the who country, so if you look at that response, you will surely see gaps with respect to climate change laws. What relates to us in Kwara state is just sanitation, the rest of the law, Kwara state environmental law relates to industry. So there is problem with enforcement of our laws. There are laws in the books but are they implemented in reality, so an important issue is when they formulate laws, do they have the proper agency and capacity to implement those laws?

I: Thank you very much sir. Moving on, I would like to ask, what funding resources do you think is available, or do people get in terms of trying to mitigate or trying to intervene on climate change issues in environment that are prone to it?

R: Well, I really don't understand that question but the sense I can make of it, there are different ways to generate funds, government is the first funder, but government itself generate funding from it's people. There are environmental tax collected from market women, even companies pay environmental tax, all the multinational companies, they pay environmental tax, if they pollute the environment, they should be able to pay for it, the essence is to constitute a funding source from which we can pay to remedy climate conditions. Such money can be deployed to the ministry of environment, for afforestation, to carry out greening initiative elsewhere, the green spaces helps to filter all these greenhouse gases. Apart from environmental tax, there are also a lot of you know international funding initiatives, like I mentioned a project we are currently involved in, which is been facilitated by the global environmental facility, we call it GEF, it is a funding source by the united nations, and of course different communities and even government agencies benefit from it, so there are international donors, even the multinational ones, some of them are also involved in um, funding environmental initiatives, I am aware of most of the oil companies, because their activities impact the environment, they make funding available. So all we need is a coordinated effort of relevant government agencies to make sure that these different funding sources can be maximized to the benefit of not just the people but the environment at large, and I hope that answers your question?

I: Yes, in a very liberal sense sir. So just to wrap us that aspect sir, I want to ask if there are specific areas you think this needed more than other ones.

R: Well, I wouldn't, normally the environment itself is a total sum, and you don't focus on one aspect at the expense of another. When you talk about the environment, you talk of the need to fight pollution, the need to fight um, deforestation, you will be talking about in the need to make sure that our water bodies are clean, in my opinion there is none of these components that I've mentioned that is more important than the other, on the contrary, there is a way they connect, it's just like someone saying is the liver more important than the kidney? Should I focus more on the kidney and leave the heart? There is none of these that you want to take care of in isolation, but it may be location specific, you know the different locations with their challenges, will determine what you will focus on.

I: Thank you very much; I think that answers the question. So moving on sir, I will like to ask that how effective are these policies in protecting vulnerable communities, the policies we've mentioned that they revolve around the environment, how effective are they in trying to protect vulnerable communities from the impact of climate change?

R: Well you have to define what you mean by “vulnerable communities”, that's very important, because vulnerability also varies...

I: Ok sir, in terms of flood-prone areas now, for example

R: Ok. When you say flood-prone areas, yes flood-prone areas are vulnerable communities, there is no doubt about that and what government normally does us to rely on a warning system, you know there is a metrological agency called NIMET. So when NIMET forecasts to say that we're going to have sea level rise, what that simply means is that government can take that information to alert communities around river areas to move, so that when sea level rises, they are not caught unaware. So if you go to Jebba for example, you know we have river Niger, there are communities that are located around the boundary of the river bank. So for such communities, what government will normally do is to tell them to move away, because there is tendency for the water to rise, and when it rise, it can overflow its bank and that is what you call um flooding. Apart from flooding, one of the things we mentioned earlier is drought, and drought can cause unexpected fire outbreak so most of the time what government says is they want to go and give them compensation, they want to go and give them aids. So government has not identified a particular place that we will now say maybe the law is effective, you know most of these laws, they are regulations that apply more in the urban center. So when you talk about environmental sanitation for example, who goes to the interior, who goes to the villages to go and see whether they are observing it? So the point I'm making is the plan for the vulnerable communities is more of a fire brigade approach, except of when NIMET makes forecast, and government goes on radio to warn the people, which if you ask me is a good idea.

I: Alright, thank you sir. Earlier you mentioned private companies that um their activities impacts the environment, one way or the other they have to have what they are paying back as a means to reduce their impact on the environment. How compliant do you think these kinds of organizations are in adhering to this regulations or policies?

R: Well their compliance level again is a function of how serious we are as a country, in respect to addressing the issues of the environment. The laws are there, the regulations are there, but of course what everybody as human beings will want to do is 'how much of the laws can I evade?' so it is now left to the um, enforcing agencies to make sure that the laws are obeyed. And I can only speak for maybe um companies in the Niger Delta. You know the Niger Delta, using your word is a very vulnerable area in the country, that's where we produce ah...oil, crude oil, and if you have the opportunity to visit those areas, you will know that it's really really a different environment compared to Kwara state which we are focusing

on. So for such an environment, there is a problem of oil spillage, which impacts the farmland, which impacts even the the river bodies, and you know another thing they do very well there is fishing activities. So when there's oil spillage which affects the aquatic life, so whether the companies like it or not, they have to respond. So down to, or up here rather, cause the Niger Delta is actually down, so up here, um we don't really have much of that but if you pick Ilorin, I think there is a Dangote cement in Ilorin, there is no how you will produce cement and you will not negatively impact the environment, both the air that we breathe in and the water bodies, so I want to believe that the KWEPA, which is the agency that we mentioned the other time will be alive to its responsibility to ensure that the pollution is minimal and their fees are paid. Ok so the summary of this explanation is to say that it is not necessarily the duty of these companies to comply with the law, but rather the duty of the agencies to enforce the law, do you get the point now? And I want to assume that the right thing is been done.

I: Thank you sir, moving on to the latter part of the questions sir, talking about recommendations, what are specific improvements you will suggest that could help in enhancing the effectiveness of these policies?

R: Well, I think we will go back to em where we started from, the aim of this interaction is on climate change laws and policies, and we're focusing on Kwara state, so Nigeria as a country, has a climate change act, I want to repeat that, all what Kwara state needs to do is to take that act and domesticate it. So that's the starting point, they need to domesticate the national law, and make it a state law, ok? Then if there is need for you to constitute a climate change action committee, you need to do that, you know I need the word action, it means that they are not going to be anticipating or dwelling in rhetoric, rather what they will be doing is "what action can we take to address climate change?" So I've mentioned two things. So the rest of the recommendation will now revolve around that committee, which you've constituted, and what will they do? What they will do is to sensitized the people, they have to create awareness, I'm aware of some civil societies that are doing this, but you need government authority to be able to push through a lot of things. After awareness you have to take some actions, and that committee, there is no way it will not work with some existing agencies like that KWEPA we mentioned earlier on, like the department of forestry in the ministry of environment, so for me this are specific recommendations that we can infer from the whole interaction.

I: Thank you very much sir, so lastly I would just like you to help me rate Kwara state government in their capacity of enforcing these laws overtime, on a scale of 1 to 10

R: I will give them 5 over 10

I: Alright sir, thank you very much sir.

-END OF INTERVIEW-

Public Sector 2

Transcript number: 019

I: Interviewer

R: Respondent

I: Once again thank you once again for granting me audience sir. So my first question is, what are the main climate-related threats in Kwara state?

R: Alright, thank you. The major climate threats that is experienced in Kwara state are um, flood, erratic rainfall and drought, those are the three major ones.

I: Thank you sir, so in your opinion sir, how effective are the existing climate-related legal frameworks like Kwara State's climate policies and national laws in addressing the specific climate challenges faced by Kwara State?

R: Em, the state's climate laws are very effective, they are addressed to the threats in the state, so they are effective, what I just em noticed recently is that it seems that government agents are relaxing in the enforcement and implementation process or activities.

I: Alright sir. Moving on, in your opinion, what are the roles of the existing climate-related legal frameworks in addressing the specific climate challenges faced by Kwara State?

R: Hmm, the laws are made to protect the residents of the state, they are to reduce the events of these em climate related threats that I mentioned, also to prevent people from just acting anyhow, in ways that can contribute to a poor climate situation, you know there's a saying that when there is no law, there is no sin, but with the existence of these laws, to some extent, people won't disobey.

I: Ok. You want to add another thing? Alright thank so much for that. So what do you think are the key challenges that government agencies in Kwara State face in enforcing climate change-related laws? And also, how do these challenges differ from other states or regions in Nigeria?

R: Hmm...ok, first of all let me say on the issue of climate change, as far as I know, there are no challenges that are peculiar to some state, except if you are talking about the threats that each region, you know there are different kinds of climate situations depending on the region, so that is the only basis for difference. So you were asking of the challenges that the

government face, hmm...you see, the fact that the government regulations are not always obeyed is a very serious challenge for them, and also the laws are not implemented, also I will say the government lack the necessary expertise to properly enforce the laws

I: Thank you sir. Moving on, what are the impacts of climate change in the agricultural sector? Or it has not affected the agricultural sector at all?

R: Hmm...it affects the quality of the product of the farmers, most of them keep harvesting less than they should, they keep running at loss, because the weather is not favorable for the growth of their crops, or for increase. Also, you see their crops and animals sometimes coming down with diseases also.

I: Thank you sir. So how has the laws, the climate laws and policies I mean, how have they impacted the agricultural sector, which as you've agreed in your explanation now is particularly vulnerable to climate change effects?

R: They have helped the farmers to manage the poor climate that we currently have, you know most farmers, are provided with drought-resistant seeds from the ministry, so they can have better yield, also obeying the laws, and policies also help the farmers to be able to ensure a more healthy environment around them.

I: Ok sir. Considering that local communities also have a part to play in all these, how involved do you think they are in Kwara State in enforcing and monitoring climate laws? Also, can you tell me the role they play in climate adaptation efforts?

R: They try, they help to interpret these policies in their various communities, they also help to monitor adherence to the state government's regulation. It is also through them that the government agents are able to reach the communities.

I: Alright sir, so how do you think Kwara state laws and policies, align with national climate laws and international agreements? Or do you think they are distinctively different?

R: I consider Kwara climate laws as derivatives of the national act and international climate laws, so em, I will say they are in proper alliance.

I: Alright sir. Pertaining to funding of climate projects and laws, I will like to ask, what funding resources do you think people get, and also who em manage, who manages the distribution of these funds?

R: The governments, the NGOs, international agencies, you know these people come together to fund such project, I mean they donate in their different ways, so their funds provide relief resources and the likes to farmers and residents at large. Majorly sha, the national and state government mostly provide funding resources, em and they also manage the distribution.

I: Ok, so what is the role of this funding that they provide? And what area do you think needs funding?

R: You know it's an entire project, so I won't want to pick out an aspect to say that em it needs more funds, so that's just it. About the role of the funds, let me simply say it makes implementation and enforcement of the laws easy, everything needed, the logistics, and so on, it allows for smooth running of everything.

I: Thank you very much sir. According to you sir, how effective are existing legal frameworks that is policies in Kwara State in protecting the vulnerable communities from the impacts of climate change?

R: Ehn...they are effective to an extent, it just that it's all a work in progress, the vulnerable communities are not completely free from the threats peculiar to them, but to some extent, the legal framework has been helping.

I: Alright sir. How compliant do you perceive that the private sector in Kwara State is with environmental and climate-related regulations? And also, what are the challenges that exist in ensuring their adherence to these laws is?

R: Well, a times I feel they need government collaboration to procure some heavy machine that may help curb environment pollution, because of how expensive it is to procure and install those equipments" This still boils down to the issue of funding, but let me say majority of them are compliant, as much as they can.

I: Thank you sir. So what specific improvements would you...sorry, would you suggest to enhance the effectiveness of Kwara State's legal frameworks in um...in tackling climate change, based on the challenges you've observed? Like generally now.

R: They should employ more staff, work to implement the laws, and ensure that people are adhering to them, also there there should be quick and effective responses given to people in vulnerable areas.

I: Thank you so much sir. Lastly, how would you rate Kwara State's government institutions' capacity to enforce climate change laws? What improvements are needed in terms of training, expertise, or resources?

R: Trainings, they can never go wrong training their staffs. Let me give them... seven over ten.

I: Thank you sir, this concludes the interview.

-END OF INTERVIEW-

PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS (5)

Private Organization 1

Transcript number: 004

I: Interviewer

R: Respondent

I: I'm going to be asking you questions on climate related threats and as this is ECOBANK branch at Muritala Muhammed way right?

R: Yes

I: Ok. First question I will be asking is, the main climate-related threats in Kwara state that you're aware of.

R: Ok. I'm actually aware of the flood and the draught; it's mostly predominant in Kwara state.

I: Ok. Ok. Thank you. That is draught and flood. Ok. Apart from those two, do you think there are any other ones that are peculiar to Kwara state in the likes of maybe deforestation or erratic rainfall of which I could put erratic rainfall under the effect of draught to?

R: Yeah definitely! But in the aspect of deforestation, I will say no.

I: Ok ok, thank you. Moving on, in your opinion, how effective are all these climate-related policies, now you've mentioned like two peculiar challenges now. The policies that surrounds them that controls how it affect us, that help us mitigate the circumstances that surrounds it, how effective do you think this existing laws are in addressing specific climate challenges?

R: Ok, I will say they are actually effective. There are some agencies that are being set aside to see that these laws are been put into action, and if anybody is found guilty, there are penalties to it.

I: I think you answered the question. I was going to ask if they were included in the framework work, but since you said that you realized there are agencies, then having an agency then that means they are included in the framework. Sorry, I think I jumped a question, that's why I went back to that. So roles of climate laws in Kwara state...in your opinion, what do you think the roles of existing climate related laws are in Kwara state, in addressing this climate-related challenges?

R: Ok. I will say that their roles is just to eliminate environmental pollution, thereby providing, the government providing ways through which the waste of the community can be

taken care of, the construction of drainage systems, and means through which draught can be minimize in the state.

I: Ok ok. From your words, to my understanding, to reduce or mitigate the effect of environmental pollution right?

R: Yes

I: Alright. How are they enforcing laws on people to be able to prevent flooding and likes of it? Local enforcement of climate laws, I want to ask, what are the key challenges that government agencies face in Kwara state, while trying to enforce these climate laws on people abi on the community as the case may be?

R: Ok. I will say the main issue is the fact that the larger population of the state so to say or the people they're actually dealing with are the unlearned citizens, people that are not aware of these things or the repercussions of their act, what their act or their actions can actually contribute to the environment and the climate as a whole. So this is the major challenge, people are not actually aware of their actions, if people are aware of their actions, they will tend to follow the rules set by the government to protect not just themselves but the community and also their properties.

I: Hmm...so do you think these challenges are peculiar to a place or it's the same across Kwara state, and even outside of Kwara state, on Nigeria?

R: I wouldn't say it's peculiar to just a particular place, I will say it's general, and it can even go out of Kwara state.

I: From, from...the challenges I was going to ask that the federal government might face, maybe the issue of communicating what needs to be communicated to the citizens, how to get them to work on what needs to be worked on, like you said, you already gave an answer where you said they are not educated enough, they are not well schooled in what the repercussions might be so it is hard for them to adhere or accept the policies that they government bring right?

R: Definitely!

I: Ok. So we say they are not very different from each other? I was asking that across states, these challenges that government face, do you think they are different from each other or do you think across the state they are the same?

R: I don't think they are different.

I: Ok. Alright. Thank you. I will be asking what the impact of climate laws on Kwara state agricultural sector, on Kwara state agricultural sector now, what are the main impacts of climate change in agriculture?

R: Ok. First thing first, it could affect production, it could lower production, and also lack of education, then it could also affect growth.

I: Growth, you mean growth of farm produce or growth of the economy?

R: We have farm produce, the economy; definitely it's going to affect the economy.

I: Ok from your word you said it's going to affect the production that means it's going bring a low yield of crops. Ok. Taking note of that, how are legal framework such as policies, climate policies, agricultural policies, that are aimed at climate change mitigation, how has it impacted the Kwara state agricultural sector?

R: Please can you repeat the question?

I: Ok. I'll put it this way. These laws, these policies that are on ground to help the agricultural sector, to help navigate um production and all in agriculture, how do you think it has affected agricultural sector in Kwara state? Do you think these laws are just there, without any effect or they are actively helping or boosting the agricultural sector?

R: Ok. I'll say it actually has a positive effect, in the sense that it makes them to be aware of what the repercussion is, what they need to put in place to have optimum yield, so it gives the knowledge of what is actually limiting the growth of their, their produce, then what they need to put in check for them to get what they want from their labour.

I: Ok. Thank you. I think that answers the question on what the impact are, I'm mean what impact the Kwara state agricultural sector... Moving on, how involved do you think the local government in Kwara state are in enforcing and monitoring climate laws? I mean government cannot just jump into a village and give them instructions, they'd have to go through communities, they will have to use contacts in the community, where necessary. So how do you think, how involved do you think local communities are in Kwara state, when government are trying to enforce or monitor these climate laws that are in place?

R: Ok. I think the most used means of curbing this is through the agency, em the environmental agencies, those that are working in the environmental sector, through dissemination of information, proper checking, let just say weekly or monthly checking of the environment and what people are doing in the community. It helps to do this.

I: Do you think, if you're to rate it, do you think this involvement is poor or it's a good one, or more or less it can be improved upon?

R: It's a good one, and then some provision could be made also.

I: Alright. So what role do they play in climate adaptation effort? The communities now, how do you think they help in adapting climate control effort? Let's say for example, in a place where, excuse me, the government agencies are there to sensitize people on what the cause

and effect may be, or something that could cause havoc or something. So what do you think the community heads, the ruler or whatever, what do you think their role is in help the citizens the communities to adapt these laws or rules?

R: Ok. I will say the roles could be, for the refuse, the leaders could actually provide a means through which the community or the village could dispose their refuse properly, without going far, then also in that case, it could also prevent draught in the community.

I: Draught or flood?

R: Or flood sorry, flood in the community.

I: Alright. How well do Kwara state policies align with national climate laws, the example of I'm coming, climate change act? I'll take that again. I'm trying to ask, what do you think about the climate policies in Kwara state, and national climate laws? You know there are laws, there are national laws?

R: Yes

I: What do you think about the correlation between them? Is there a correlation between them, is there a synergy between them or you think they are totally different? What the higher level of government is saying is totally different...

R: No, I don't think they are... since we all know we have different levels in government, they are actually working hand in hand, from the national level to the local level, they pass it down until it gets to the people so it's like following a channel, a chain through which information could actually get to those people that need to know about it.

I: So do think there are any gaps in implementing these laws at the state level at all? At the national level, there is a law, there is a policy and now to be carried out by the state, do you think there's any gap involved?

R: I don't think so

I: Alright. Thank you. So you said they are both aligned together, both national laws and state laws?

Yes

I: They both align. Ok. Um...moving on, talking about funding of climate policies and trying to enforce, not as enforcing as it were but in mandating people to, to monitor them, so that they abide by those laws, do you think people get funding from this things?

R: Can you reframe...

I: Sorry, better put, what funding resources do you think people get? Let's say in an affected environment, or in an environment that is prone to these climate-related threats, you think they receive funding to help them mitigate, control or suppress the effect?

R: Yes, government actually, for the affected areas, government actually intervene in providing some amenities and infrastructures that could help them overcome the challenges and the effect of the climate change in the community or the environment.

I: Alright. In your opinion, who do you think um is responsible for managing the distribution of these funds, or seeing to the proper management of these funds that you mentioned that government will distribute?

R: Ok. I'll say it will better off if the chairman of the community takes the lead in the...

I: So more or less local community heads?

R: Exactly. The local community heads, they will know where and the people that are affected and where the funds needs to go to.

I: So what role, thank you for that. So what role does this funding or the lack of funding play in effectively enforcing climate related laws or, or frameworks or policy as you might want to call it?

R: Please again

I: Ok. I take that again, what roles does funding play in effectively enforcing climate laws, that is..

R: Ok.

I: Ok. I think you understand that.

R: I get that. The role actually of the funding in the main thing is the fact that the local chairman or the people can actually use it to construct a drainage system in the community, or provide a means through which there is a proper dumping of refuse, or an infrastructure that could actually mitigate against this issue of flood and environmental pollutions.

I: Ok. For those that do not have access to such, what do you think enforcing of this will be like in their area? I mean for those that have access to the fund, they are giving to help control, stop, mitigate. From your word there is an advantage bah?

R: There is

I: So for those that don't have access to such funding, how effective do you think this laws will be carried out in their area?

R: The laws might not be effective. The laws won't be effective until provision is made for them to do what is needful.

I: Do you there are, sorry, do you think there are areas where more financial support is needed?

R: In what aspect?

I: Let's say like sensitizing the people, capacity building, where you give personnel to be able to reach the people and to monitor the growth and development of all these policies. Stuff like this or even if it's gathering what the information are or what the challenges are. Do you think any aspect of these things need financial support?

R: Yeah! It does, because climate change can cause a lot of havoc if there is not proper information about it. So I suggest that there is, more funding should go into sensitization, including going into all these local areas and sensitize them on what climate change, the effect and what the repercussion could be on their lives, their properties and every other thing, and environment at large.

I: Thanks for the response there. So moving on, talking of the effectiveness of climate change mitigation for local communities, do you think existing legal frameworks or existing policies in Kwara state are effective, that is in protecting the vulnerable communities now, that is places that are prone to flood, do you think existing policies are actually effective?

R: I don't get that part.

I: Ok. I'll take it this way. How effective are existing legal frameworks in Kwara state, they? You understand that part?

R: Hmm

I: Those policies that are protecting vulnerable communities, like I mentioned, from the impact of climate change, do you think they are effective? Those laws that we've been mentioning that they ones that you have to (inaudible) or protect the environment, to restructure...

R: Yes, they are actually effective, because if the people in the surrounding are actually aware that if they go against this policy, this is what they would face, definitely they would do everything in their power not to...

I: So now getting to be precise, on a scale what do you think, how effective do you think these existing laws are already? Take for example in the location of um, I believe for a financial institution like yours, there are rules that binds how you structure things here and...

R: Definitely! Definitely!

I: So how...

R: Like in the case of financial institution, if all these things are not followed properly, you get to be fined; you pay a certain amount of money for going against the policy actually.

I: So you saying it's more or less um very effective or satisfactorily effective?

R: Very effective

I: Ok. For private sectors, which we can still categorize financial institution as one, how compliant are private sectors in Kwara state with environmental regulations?

R: Very compliant, very very compliant.

I: On a scale of one to ten, how compliant will you say they are?

R: I'll say eight.

I: Oh! So you're saying when the government gives them instructions, or structural guidelines on how to things on how to do things not to affect the communities or the environment at large, they most likely abide by it right?

R: They abide by it, because they know what is at stake.

I: Alright. Moving on, what challenges do you now think exist in ensuring adherence to these laws?

R: You said what?

I: What challenges do you think is been faced in ensuring that these laws are obeyed by private sectors? Do you think there are challenges at all? Maybe for someone, they might find it hard to agree to somethings, maybe it might affect what they are doing?

R: I wouldn't say that because you need to take into consideration your environment. And I don't think there will be any policy that will go against your day to day run of activities, all in the name of keeping your environment safe. If your environment is not safe, there is not going to be a smooth running of any activities. So I wouldn't say there is any challenge, so to say.

I: Ok. Moving on, what specific improvement would you suggest to enhance the effectiveness in Kwara state, framework and policies on climate change?

R: Ok. I'll say there should be more sensitization, more visitations to places, and then there should be charges to those that are fund guilty.

I: Which I think there are already

R: Yeah! It should be in operation even the more.

I: How about parts where private sectors or entities are not very committed to all these rules? I mean they could do it for a while but then overtime...

R: That was why I said there should frequent visitation.

I: Ok. That answers the question. Talking about my last question here, how would you rate Kwara state government institution's capacity that is the institutions that are involved in ah, overseeing climate-related challenges to enforce these laws? How do you rate them? Do you think they are doing a good job, a bad job or do you think they should improve or you think they are ok the way they are?

R: Ok. I think they are actually doing a good job, but there is always a place of improvement, they can do more.

I: Do you think they are really capable or they are just struggling towards their assignment?

R: They are capable.

I: Ok. Thank you very much. Last one um, if you don't mind, what improvements are needed in terms of training? What do you think are needed to be proved on in terms of training? Probably do you think um there are not trainers, I mean personnels on ground, there are not enough trained people on ground to access, I mean to connect with people or you think the training is not effective enough, it's not rich enough? So we don't have much to offer the people.

R: I, what I will say is that it has to do with personnel, the people, we don't have more people. If we have more people, more areas will be reached, and more people will get to know what they need to do in their environment. When we have more people to teach people, then they will be able to reach more percentage of communities and individuals.

I: And in terms of resources, what do you think can be improved on? I mean communities or location where there are challenges; we need resources to move to that direction right? What do you think...

R: Definitely! Well I will say there's already resource that has been used in Kwara state, especially for those that need to dump their refuse, government has already provided one for them, and I think they could actually work on getting more of them, so that refuse could be cleared, let's say daily or weekly. Then there should be more drainage system.

I: I agree with you on that for the resources aspect, 'cause it looks like not all places are properly drained.

R: Not all

I: ...which contribute to the negative effect. Thank you very much. That will be all for the questions.

-END OF INTERVIEW-

Private Organization 2

Transcript number: 009

I: Interviewer

R: Respondent

I: We will commence the interview now sir. So sir, can you mention the main climate-related threats you know in Kwara state?

R: Hmm...Climate-related threats...

I: Yes, the main climate-related threats in Kwara state

R: Ok, I know of draught, flood, em...thunderstorm and em, let me say wind. Those four sha

I: Ok sir, thank you. Talking about the effectiveness of climate laws in Kwara state, how effective do you think the existing climate-related legal frameworks are in addressing the specific climate challenges faced by Kwara State? Challenges like those you mentioned.

R: Ok...climate related-legal frameworks?

I: Yes, like climate policies and national laws, do you think there are laws concerning the threats you mentioned, and how effective are those laws?

R: Oh! Ok ok ok, well...I don't know of any policy concerning them o, I don't think they are included in the laws, and therefore there is no talk of whether they are effective or not. They are not included in the laws.

I: Alright sir, thank you. Moving on to our next question, in your opinion, what are the roles of existing climate-related legal frameworks such as Kwara State's climate policies and national laws in addressing the specific climate challenges faced by Kwara State?

R: Ok, the laws abi? Well...they are supposed to help mitigate these climate em, climate-related threats that we're talking about, to help prevent them. It is also to help sympathize with affected areas, or let me say vulnerable areas.

I: Thank you. Now we will be talking about the enforcement of the climate laws, what are the key challenges that government agents, sorry agencies in Kwara State face in enforcing climate change-related laws?

R: The country, or let me just say the state has a em...let me say, an inadequate legal structure to tackle these threats, and then, across the communities of the state, there is no proper supervision

I: Rider to that question sir, how do the challenges differ from other regions in Nigeria?

R: Em...there is no difference o, I don't see any difference across the places I know in the country

I: Ok sir, about the impact of these climate laws on Kwara state agricultural sector, what are the main impacts of climate change on agriculture?

R: Ah...there are actually a lot of harm that em...climate change has done on agriculture, it has resulted in flood, which has caused reduction in soil nutrient, you know, the nutrient in the soil is been washed off, it has in the long term resulted in food insecurity in the state and the country too.

I: Alright sir, so how have legal frameworks such as climate policies, agriculture policies and national policies aimed at climate change mitigation impacted Kwara State's agriculture sector, which is particularly vulnerable to climate change effects?

R: Well...to me, I see no impact in resolving these em, environmental threats, so I will say there is low impact in resolving environmental threats caused by em...climate change.

I: Ok sir. In all these enforcements, I mean um, enforcement of these laws, there should be a place for local communities to get involved, so how involved are local communities in Kwara State in enforcing and monitoring climate laws?

R: Ah...for me, there is little or no involvement o, I barely see the participation of the local communities in all these

I: Hmm...so can you even tell us what role do they may play in climate adaptation efforts?

R: Ah...no, they barely do anything.

I: Alright sir. So do you think Kwara State's local climate policies align with national climate laws and international agreements? Also, are there any gaps in implementation at the state level?

R: Yes, they do, or they should, Kwara is a state in the country, so they should align. I don't think there is any gap in their laws.

I: Ok sir. Speaking of funding of climate law enforcements, what funding resources do people get, to aid the enforcement of these laws?

R: Hmm...majorly in these kinds of situations, it is usually the government that provides funding for people, so government funding and ehen, maybe world bank too.

I: Ok, thank you sir. So about these funds that you said people get, who then is responsible for the management and distribution of these funds?

R: Ehn ...of course it will be the sponsoring bodies, you know, the organization through which the fund is coming to em, to the people. In the case of the government giving out aids, it will be government agencies, they will share it to the various local governments are ensure their employees get it to the people.

I: Alright sir, so what role does funding, or the lack thereof, like in the case of lack of funding, what role do those cases play in effectively enforcing the climate-related legal frameworks that we've been talking about in Kwara State? Also, do you think there are there specific areas where more financial support is needed?

R: Hmm...ok, receiving funding or aids helps the logistics and man power of intervention and enforcement of those laws, simply let me say, em...it makes the work easier, so if there is lack of funds, you can guess that there will no em, em, how do I put it now? Let me just say there

will be little or no success in the implementation of those laws. What is the second part of that question again?

I: Thank you sir, I was asking that is there any specific area where you think more financial support is needed?

R: Every area needs finance to drive it, so I don't think there is a special area that needs financial support.

I: Ok sir. Speaking of the effectiveness of climate change mitigation for vulnerable communities, how effective are existing legal frameworks that is, policies in Kwara State in protecting vulnerable communities from the impacts of climate change?

R: Ah...they are not effective o, those areas still experience the threats so I don't see any form of effectiveness of those laws.

I: Alright sir. So how compliant is the private sector in Kwara State with environmental and climate-related regulations?

R: Ehn...we're always compliant, majorly because he doesn't want to have to pay heavily, you know, if you don't abide by those environmental laws in Kwara state, you may be fined, ehen, so to avoid fines, we comply.

I: So are challenges that exist in ensuring your adherence to these laws, you and the private sector as a whole?

R: Em...none that I can think of.

I: Thank you sir, we're gradually moving to the end of the interview. So what specific improvements would you suggest to enhance the effectiveness of Kwara State's legal frameworks in tackling climate change, based on the challenges you've observed?

R: Well, I will say they should review and work on existing policies in the state concerning climate issues, you know, they should um put up a standard environmental protection agency for the state, and also they work with partner agencies, NGOs and other concerned agencies to um...effectively execute projects that mitigates the effects of climate treats.

I: Thank you so much sir. Lastly, how would you rate Kwara State's government institutions' capacity to enforce climate change laws? Also, what improvements are needed in terms of training, expertise, or resources?

R: Hmm...Well, they need to improve you know, because there is a lot to be done effectively, so if I'm to rate them, hmm...I will give them 3 out 10.

-END OF INTERVIEW-

Private Organization 3

Transcript number: 010

I: Interviewer

R: Respondent

I: So, thank ma for making out time for this interview

R: You're welcome

I: I will start with the questions now ma. The first question is what are the main climate-related Threats in the Kwara States?

R: Ok. Thank you. The climate-related threats that I can pinpoint in Kwara state are um drought, um...flood, yes those two basically.

I: Alright, thank you ma. Moving on to the next question, this question is about the effectiveness of climate laws in Kwara state. So I want to ask ma, that in your opinion, how effective are the existing climate-related legal frameworks, such as Kwara State's climate policies and national laws, in addressing the specific climate challenges faced by Kwara State, I mean challenges like flood and draught like you've just mentioned? Before you answer that ma, let me ask, are they included in the framework? Do you think there are any of such climate laws?

R: Yes, there are existing climate laws in Kwara state. Those are the kind of laws that the em...Kwara State Environmental Protection Agency (KWEPA) work to em protect

I: Alright thank you ma. So how effective are these laws?

R: Hmm...actually some of those laws are effective, like the one for flooding now, I know those policies concerning flooding are effective in em Kwara state, but the ones for draught, ah...me I don't think they effective o, I don't think they are effective.

I: Alright. Thank you for that clear answer ma. Moving on, speaking of the roles of climate laws in Kwara state, in your opinion, what are the roles of existing climate-related legal frameworks such as Kwara State's climate policies and national laws in addressing the specific climate challenges faced by Kwara State? Like the one of flooding that you said exists now, what em role do you think they play?

R: Em...well those policies have been designed to help protect our environment. The policies for flooding now, they help to reduce flooding in the communities, although I will like to add that awareness should still be created about those em, what is it called, laws and policies.

I: That's very good, thank you ma. Moving on to the next question, we want to talk about the local enforcement of these climate laws. Ma, what are the key challenges that government agencies in Kwara State face in, face in enforcing climate change-related laws?

R: Hmm...I think there are quite a few of those challenges. You know, one is inadequate institutional framework, eh...another is limited capacity and resources, when they don't even have resources to work with, and another is limited access to technology. I feel the technology they have is not adequate, or let me say em sufficient enough to enforce or implement those laws and policies.

I: Thank you so much ma. As a follow-up question, I want to ask that do these challenges differ from other regions in Nigeria?

R: Ah...no o, I don't think they different o, the lack of capacity, resources, technology, like that, to me, they are the same issues across Nigeria.

I: Ok, thank you ma. About the impact of these climate laws on Kwara state agricultural sector, what do think are the main impacts of climate change on agriculture?

R: Hmm...Ok. It results in emission of greenhouse gases, you know, results in increased waste, there is no proper em...waste management, and also our natural resources can no longer be conserved.

I: Hmm...thank you ma. Moving on, still on the impact of those laws on agriculture, how have legal frameworks such as climate policies, agriculture policies and national policies aimed at climate change mitigation impacted Kwara State's agriculture sector, which is particularly vulnerable to climate change effects?

R: Well, it has helped farmers manage their produce, like the quantity of yield they get, you know some farmers get draught-resistant seeds, although not all farmers em...believe and then receive those seeds.

I: About the roles of local communities in law enforcement, how involved do you think local communities in Kwara State are in enforcing and monitoring climate laws?

R: Well, I think they are highly involved, they are trying, they are highly involved.

I: Ok. So what role do they play in climate adaptation effort? What roles do they play in ensuring that the laws are obeyed, implemented?

R: Hmm...let me say they monitor the community people at the em grassroot level. They explain the laws and its implications to them and em do their best to ensure adoption abi is it adaptation you called it?

I: Yes, thank you ma. So how well do Kwara State's local climate policies align with national climate laws and international agreements? You know there are international, national laws as well as there are laws in Kwara state? So how well do these sets of laws align?

R: Well, they align to a certain extent. You know, they don't fully align with those national laws, but they do align to some extent.

I: Ok ma, since you said they don't fully align, so what gaps are there in implantation at the state level?

R: Yes, there are gaps, and it is in the aspect of information available for the state to work with, concerning enforcement of those laws.

I: Thank you ma. Concerning the funding for climate laws enforcement in Kwara state, what em funding resources do people get?

R: Ok. The government is the one that funds them, the local government funds them.

I: Hmm...Ok ma. So who manages or distributes these funds?

R: The people that are giving it now, the agents of the government agencies that are sponsoring the finding.

I: Alright, thank you ma. Then what role does funding, or the lack thereof, plays in effectively enforcing climate-related legal frameworks in Kwara State?

R: Yes, so it helps to improve the quality of intervention that will be done in affected areas, and also help to eliminate the incidents of threats.

I: Ok, thank you ma. So are there specific areas where you think more financial support is needed?

R: Em...no, there's none I can state for now.

I: Alright ma, thank you ma. On the effectiveness of climate change mitigation for vulnerable communities, how effective are existing legal frameworks or policies in Kwara State in protecting vulnerable communities, e.g., flood-prone areas, in protecting them from the impacts of climate change?

R: Hmm....to the best of my knowledge, I will just say they are partly effective. You it's not we can even get a perfect em...score on the effectiveness of those laws, so they are partially effective.

I: Ok ma. Concerning private sectors' compliance, how compliant is the private sector in Kwara State with environmental and climate-related regulations? What challenges exist in ensuring their adherence to these laws?

R: Wait, step-by-step, the question again

I: Sorry ma. I was asking that how compliant is the private sector in Kwara State with environmental and climate-related regulations?

R: Ok, they are very compliant, to the best of my knowledge

I: Alright ma. Do you think the encounter any challenge in ensuring their adherence to those laws?

R: Hmm... It's possible they encounter challenges o, but me I don't know of any.

I: Alright ma, thank you ma. So we're gradually moving to the end of the interview. From your personal assessment of the topic we've been discussing, what specific improvements would you suggest to enhance the effectiveness of Kwara State's legal frameworks in tackling climate change, based on the challenges you've observed?

R: Ok. One em...I will say they should em, review and amend the existing laws, and also they should, they should em, build capacity of regulatory agencies.

I: Ok ma. So lastly how would you rate Kwara State's government institutions' capacity to enforce climate change laws? And what improvements are needed in terms of training, expertise, or resources?

R: Well, there is always room for improvement, they can do better. So it's a work in progress. For improvements in terms of training, training and retraining government agents and the various communities will help a lot.

I: Thank you so much ma for your time. We have come to the end of the interview

-END OF INTERVIEW-

Private organization 4

Transcript number: 011

I: Interviewer

R: Respondent

I: Ok so, I'll be asking questions concerning climate related threats, policies and frameworks particular to Kwara state. First of all, I will like to know if you are aware of any climate related threats in Kwara state

R: I think the major climate threat we have in Kwara state...regarding agriculture or what? Or just generally...

I: Climate-related threats cut across different sectors but peculiar to your field as a farmer, and the owner of a farm now

R: The major one is, let's say as a poultry farmer now, the major threat is dumping of chicken dung, how we dispose chicken dung. It's a major threat to we farmers.

I: Ok. Alright, but apart from...I'm trying to see how that can be incorporated into climate threats now, is it in form of the concentration or inform of the smell?

R: Yes, that's even aside the concentration, what's the gas that... ammonia gas, is it not a threat to our environment? When it becomes too large...if you see how people leave chicken

dung now, these days, for people that rare in a commercial quantity in a residential area, that's a big threat to people living in that side.

I: Ok. Having said that, are you aware of climate laws in the state?

R: I won't say climate laws, but I know of environmental laws, there are environmental laws.

I: In your own opinion, how effective are these existing climate laws?

R: Hmm...to a large extent, recently, recently I represent a particular person in court, who was charged to court violating these environmental laws, and she was not the only one that was brought to court, there were other people that were charged for violating that same law, yes, for the offence of raring chicken in a residential area, not only raring chicken in a commercial, raring for a commercial purpose, still went ahead and not making adequate provision for the disposing of the chicken dung, just flushing it outside her compound, and leaving it to the open space for it to decay, which actually is causing problem for people in the community. From my own basic knowledge, I think it affect the climate.

I: You were saying you were charged to court, I wouldn't know if you can list some of the threat they you are aware of in Kwara state that affects climate?

R: Hmm...let me say the issue of erratic rainfall, you know there was this heavy rain towards the end of the year, that actually affected one of my client, which I had to write in his behalf for a particular company to take action to meditate the damage the flooding was causing and the eventually damage it could still cause.

I: So in your own words now, we could take flooding as one of the climate threats?

R: Yes

I: Ok, environmental pollution, in terms of air pollution is also a threat to the climate, to livestock and humans. That's two, ok, you mentioned rainfall too. Ok, can we say these um threats are included in the framework, when we talk about the policies and laws that are been enacted? Let's take flooding for instance

R: Hmm...Flooding, I'm not so sure, I'm not so sure, let me say I've not come across any law compelling, you know flooding is an action of nature, it's an action of nature, just a particular person cannot be...

I: It's could be due to human activities too, it could be aided

R: Yes it could be aided, that's where environmental laws will come in. Probably dumping of refuse of inside the drainage...

I: Do you think those laws are effective?

R: Yes, people have been prosecuted in court, so it's effective. To minimal extent, you know when people are dumping these things, it's not as if you will see them, people do it during

dark hours, during odd hours and night, or during when it is raining, they immediately rush out to dispose their waste. Even there are companies that flush their wastes; they just channel it through water ways

I: Ok, for flooding we talk about...so for rainfall, do you think there is a policy that talks about how to mitigate the effect...

R: As I was saying earlier, the letter I wrote for my client, what happened was that all these tobacco companies in the area, there was heavy downpour, I think it was the fence of that company that closed the channel of that water to easily flow, so the water creating a channel for itself was carrying away the top soil of the other neighbors which was causing erosion. So now who will take responsibility for the damage? The company in it's own natural sense, "I took charge of my property, I fenced it which is a natural thing for me to do", but on doing that, water way was blocked. These are things that I think might not really be included in our laws. We always believe that it is the responsibility of the government to do all these kind of things, yes it is your property, you will secure it, but you still have to leave proper channel for this water to flow. I'm not sure there is an extensive, or there is a particular law that caters for that. And the most important thing is that these kind of things, they are mostly not reported. We see it, we neglect it. We always believe that it is the government that should handle such.

I: Hmm...I see. Moving on, roles of climate laws in Kwara state, in your opinion, what are the roles of existing climate-related frameworks or policies, such as Kwara state climate policies and national laws, what are their roles in addressing specific climate challenges?

R: As I've said, the, I think the most important thing is just to bring the perpetrators to order, to ensure that they do the right thing, and I think the laws have been working on that. If you're taken to court, the court will mandate you to do the necessary thing, which will later be inspected before you're discharged, or you pay fines. After um...doing the right thing, probably a poultry farmer now, doing a commercial thing in a residential area now, you have to clear the chicken out of that environmental, clearly the area... probably, the will still ensure you pay fine, at least to deter you from doing same again. To a larger extent, that has worked.

I: Thank you, what are key challenges that you think Kwara state government face in enforcing climate-related laws?

R: Hmm...One of the key challenges is um...societal reluctance towards reporting offenders, like individual reluctance towards reporting such cases that is one of the major challenges. You yourself, ok, don't let me make use of you as an example, for myself now, chicken up to like 100 in numbers, one way or the other, it might be causing pollutions. Let's say I have

tenants now, is it my tenants that will go and report me, or a neighbour that we have been relating over years? People have been so reluctant to report issues like that.

I: So how do these challenges differ, these challenges, are they peculiar to Kwara state?

R: I, I don't want to believe they are peculiar to Kwara state alone, I want to believe those challenges, let me say African factor, we always want to see ourselves as one, nobody wants to put a neighbour in trouble. So we always consider ourselves as...

I: So what about other threats let's say reaching personnels to communicate or to sensitize people, could you refer to that as a challenge?

R: The government has been going on air, and giving the adverse effect of um polluting the drainage, dumping refuse in the drainage and what it cause, even to the extent of telling people not to build on water ways, ehen, so to an extent, the government has been trying on that. But on the issue of agriculture, I don't I've come across those rules.

I: Ok. I want to ask questions around, I want to ask about the impact of climate laws in the agricultural sector now, so I want to know, what are the main impacts of climate change in agriculture, that you know or are conversant with?

R: Can it even be positive? Recently, the pattern of rain we had this year, it has very negative effect on farmers, the output, the yield was very poor, aside that it was low, the produce were poor, for let's say for someone that cultivate maize now, I think as a farmer, if I want to farm, I will start my cultivation around that February till like...ok February you expect rain in April. That period there was even rain at all, and you've spent money, expecting rain, giving the land for that period of...you still have to do another process of preparing the land. When the rain started again, we had a distorted pattern of...so the crops were damaged, the ones that survived did not produce a good quality...

I: How are these legal frameworks such as climate policies, agricultural policies, national policies aimed at climate change mitigation, how has it impacted Kwara state agricultural sector, which are particularly vulnerable to climate change effect?

R: Do I understand that?

I: Ok. The first question was that what are the impact of this climate change generally on agriculture, and you mentioned poor yield and all, I'm now saying the legal frameworks, that is laws, policies that are around these climate issues, how do you think um these legal framework right, how have they been to impact Kwara state agricultural sector?

R: The law is limited, as I've said earlier, it's only about the offenders, ok this is what you said, this is your action, this is what it could cause. The law goes after those offenders, some who builds on the water ways or those who dump refuse.

I: Ok, can we say the law has been effective enough to mitigate these challenges?

R: That's why I said it is limited.

I: So I want to ask, local communities as well are very key in enforcing these laws, so how well do you think they are involved in enforcing these laws?

R: Hmm... Recently I think I was involved with this em NGO people, I think the issue was about World Bank project, which is like planting of trees in the rural area. They call it Acresal or, something like that, it's a world bank project, which is about preventing climate or just to make sure to increase the level of afforestation. Deforestation is a major challenge we are facing, you will see people just going into your land, I have acres of land that I use for farming. Without your permission, people will just go into your land to cut down trees, before you know it, everywhere is opened

I: Ok, are you aware of any framework around it?

R: Yes, they are, because there is this law that says cutting of trees without planting or replacing with a particular number is an offence

I: Ok, I understand that part, thank you. I want to ask, how well does Kwara state local policy align with national climate laws and international agreements?

R: I want to believe this issue of planting a particular number of trees after cutting one. I think it is a national law, which was domesticated in every state.

I: Ok, are there any gaps in implantation at state level?

R: This is where the issue of deforestation will come in, deforestation can only occur in the rural area, where we have um unassessed land, who wants to report who? Who witnessed the action? The person that cut the tree is my brother or my cousin, the rural environment is so close that everybody knows each other, so there is no way that they person doing this will report him, or let say the person that put me on the land might even be an offender

I: Ok, I will like to talk about funding for climate laws, law enforcement rather in Kwara state. What funding resources do you think people get as regards trying to mitigate the climate threats?

R: Aside the what's it call, the international grants I talked about, which is this Acresal something, I don't think I've heard of any other. If it's not coming from the Kwara state government or the national...fundings are limited.

I: Ok. If you think there are funding, who are in charge of management, distribution?

R: They still work with the state government, like those Acresal people; they work with the state government.

I: Ok, these funding, what role do you think they play, positively or negatively, like the availability thereof or the lack in vulnerable places?

R: To the best knowledge that I have, for example, I think their target is mainly rural areas, the urban areas is not even in their program

I: Ok. So do you think there are some areas in which more financial support is needed?

R: Yes, we all know that it's the rural area that it affects most, but it doesn't mean that the developed areas should be neglected, there are some developed areas that still needs support also.

I: Ok, I understand you. Private sector compliance, do you think private sectors are very compliant with environmental and climate-related laws?

R: Hmm...I think to an extent, I want to believe private sectors are compliant. The number of companies that release stuffs into the environment are limited, if you are talking about these big companies that go into mass productions, that could affect our what's it called our water system, they are not as large as individual's contribution.

I: Do you think there are challenges, eh...sorry what are the challenges that exists in ensuring the adherence to these laws? There are laws that guide a company on what they do or do not do in an environment; do you think there are challenges in abiding by these laws?

R: As I've said, there's... let's leave Kwara state, there's not much company that is into production in Kwara state, let's go to the East, where oil is been processed, you know they've had this issue of oil spillage, which has been a lot of problem to people in that environment, they have been prosecuted, they have passed their judgment, but executing this judgment has been...in fact those people that they've been able to execute, to what extent has the execution of the judgment been able to reduce the challenges? Because there will still be the continuous pollution of the water.

I: Ok, I understand you. So local solutions and recommendations, what specific solutions will you suggest, to enhance the effectiveness of Kwara state legal frameworks or policies in tackling these climate changes?

R: Hmm...Let's say mass orientation, there has to orientation of the population, people need to be aware of these things, that's number one

I: Ok, just before we round up, how would you rate Kwara state government's capacity to enforce climate change laws?

R: To an extent, they've been trying; you know I said they've been prosecuting people in court, so they are working

I: Do you think there's an improvement that they need in terms of training expertise?

R: Yes, I don't even think they have enough personnel; they don't have enough personnel, because I think they should be stationed in strategic places, not until when these things are reported to them.

I: How about in terms of resources?

R: When there is better condition for working, people will do more now...

I: Thank you very much sir

-END OF INTERVIEW-

Private Organization 5

Transcript number: 012

I: Interviewer

R: Respondent

I: Where do you work sir?

R: I work for an agrochemical based company in Kwara state

I: Ok thank you for that. We will be asking questions based on climate-related threats. First question says what are the main climate-related threats in Kwara state?

R: Based on the location where I am, which is Lafiagi, categorized under Kwara North, the basic threat they have most of the time is higher temperature, which affects rainfall. So there is a low rainfall with high temperature, which affected most of their crops.

I: What of flood and draught?

R: There's is no draught. Based on the rainfall pattern, there is draught. So any crop that will be planted in Kwara North must be em draught-resistant crop.

I: So in your opinion, how effective are climate-related legal framework in Kwara state?

R: Hmm...in Kwara North, from what I've seen, from the examples I've seen with the farmers, I don't really think there's any law, any em policy that is been used in Kwara North to help them combat these threats.

I: And as a company, are you aware of any? You said the communities are not aware of any law, but you as a company, are you aware of these...

R: Well, well, I believe from my knowledge so far, I can't really pinpoint any policy, but I believe there will be some policies that are been passed in the Senate house to combat these threats, because I know there is an emergency response for flooding, and ah...most of these

organization like IITA and the likes that release rainfall pattern per year. But I don't think these local farmers are aware. They base their policy on their past experience. They don't really based it on any government or parastatal's warning that is been issued, because most of them do really believe in those government policies.

I: Taking erratic rainfall as one of the challenges, you already said it's not included in the framework, so we can say it's not effective?

R: Yes, it is not effective, because as at now, most of those farmers have a lot of things to loose from that draught. It affected their first planting of rice; their second plant of rice was also affected. So there was no government aid that could come to their rescue, at this point in time.

I: Those that happen, like over the years...

R: When I said most of these farmers base their policies on their own personal experience, what happened, this particular year, the draught, low rainfall that happened this year, they said it happens once in every 5 years. So they planned it, so they are not expecting something of this nature next year.

I: So should I say they were prepared towards...

R: Yes, some of them were prepared, but a larger percentage of them were not prepared, because even after the first planting, they still went ahead to do the second planting and there was rainfall for just 2 weeks, and immediately after that 2 weeks, everything start burning.

I: Thank you. So roles of climate laws; in your own opinion, what are the roles of existing climate-related legal frameworks in addressing climate challenges faced in Kwara state?

R: Hmm...well, when I mean the roles, I will be talking about the importance of existing legal frameworks. Well it's expected to come to the aid and improve the yield. It's expected to protect them from these disasters that might actually occur. So I believe those are supposed to be the roles and importance of these policies and laws

I: Ok. Thank you. Moving on, going to the local enforcement of these Climate laws now, you know we said there are laws, there are policies, but it won't be effective or it won't come to life if you don't involve the local communities. So what are the key challenges Kwara state face in enforcing these laws?

R: Security is the major thing, beause any government parastatal that is coming towards the Kwara North, your security is the one that is most important, and coming there to enforce the law, you first of all take care of your own security, that's one thing. Two, language barrier is another thing. For someone that is coming towards the Kwara North, you have to understand their language. So far you don't understand their language; you will not be able to

communicate with the farmers. Then thirdly, their road network is poor. Any government agency that is coming towards Kwara North that may want to ah...that may want to help enforce and propagate those laws, you need to be able to move up and down, but their road network is bad, so those are the thing I feel...and their network signals is very very, very very poor because we can go three days without network. So...

I: That's, that's...so that been said, those are challenges to communicate these things, so how about personnel management?

R: There there are agricultural agencies, that's the ministry of agric, there's ministry of agric situated in Lafiagi per say. Well I feel most of the time, they are not really up and doing, because there is no proper dissemination of information among these farmers to know ok o, this is what is what is supposed to happen this year. So there are personnels there but I don't think they are adequate personnels probably, maybe they need to be reorientated, maybe yearly, so to know a particular situation that is expected to occur in the following year so they know how to pass the information to the farmers.

I: Ok so what do you think the acceptability of these farmers to these policies? When you bring a policy, like you said earlier, based on experience, most likely, it's difficult for them to accept policies like they always say, it's not going to help them

R: That means it will be good, if there an experimental plot, located in their region. Because it will be hard for you to bring a draught tolerant seed, and you expect them to accept it immediately, because this is one of the major policy that needs to be established. So for you to bring it, they need to see practically, this is what is going to happen. They need to know that if we plant this, the yield is going to be better than what we've been planting before, because most of them plant in large hectares of land, so they cannot just accept any seed, and it will fail them, as compared to get what they've been planting earlier. So they need a practical-oriented farm, probably a few plot that will be planted for all of them to see at intervals that this what is happening for this draught tolerant seed, and this is a great policy that might be accepted.

I: Alright thank you very much. Now talking of the impact of these climate laws on Kwara state agricultural sector, now I realize your company is dealing in agro allied, like coming to agriculture basically, because I would have love to ask what the impact of your company is to the environment, to the environmental climate

R: Basically our company has been developing climate -friendly herbicides that are organic, but the acceptability is what we're talking about. Insecticide that is inorganic, that is organic, it is produced from bacillus. We have insecticide that is produced from Neem, Neem tree, but

the acceptability is another things, because they feel they want something quick and fast, which is...organic is not always fast, so these are the contribution we're trying to improve on the climatic change, we're trying to improve on the benefits of all these.

I: So these are challenges that you face, you also mentioned government. What are the impacts of climate change on agriculture?

R: Basically the major impact it's always having is negative, which is low yield, because the moment there excess flooding, it will reduce the yield, when there draught, high temperature, it will reduce the yield, so most of these things have effect on the yield at the end of the day.

I: Ok. So how have legal frameworks such as climate policies, agricultural policies, and national policies, aimed at climate change mitigation, how has impacted agricultural sector in Kwara state, in this case most vulnerable to climate change effect?

R: Well...hmm, when we're talking about the legal framework as I've said, this framework is not generally in existence in Lafiagi, so we can't actually say...

I: Alright. So how involved are local communities, I'm moving to the next question that talks about the role of local communities in law enforcement. So how involved are local communities in Kwara state in enforcing and monitoring climate laws?

R: That's what I'm saying that lot of these um farmers are not really accepting it, so the personnels need to be reorientated in another way for them to enforce that law, but the local farmers are not really accepting those laws, because it's as if the government turn a blind eye towards that region in Kwara state. In as much as the transportation towards that route is very poor, their road network is very poor, so few people are there to enforce those laws, so those communities do what they've been doing well very the years, so there is no really an impact

I: So the local communities is like people that will be representing the location, so what role do you think the play in helping them adapting this?

R: Hmm...take for example, I've been talking with the chairman of agro-dealers in Lafiagi, and they have been trying to preach the gospel of these policies to the farmers, but you it's something that not be done in a day, but few of them are accepting, but the larger percentage are not really adapting to it, because they don't want to risk it. That's why we need what we call a pilot plot to experiment all these laws, and all these policies, for them to see the effect.

I: Ok. Thank you very much for that. So coordinating, coordination sorry, between state and national policies, we've been talking about Kwara state, so how well do you think Kwara state policies align with national policies?

R: Well, with my own experience and with my own understanding, most of these Kwara state laws and these national laws are all enjoined together under this what do you call it? The

um...sustainable development goals, (SDG) so almost all the laws are actually enjoined under those laws, so the Kwara state laws is always related to the national laws, which the national laws is a subdivision of the SDGs, so it's always aligning.

I: So are there any gaps you think in the implementation at state level? I mean it's there at national level, of course we're saying there's not much difference but do you think there are any gaps in implantation at the state level?

R: Yes, there is, 'cause when we're talking about implementation of those laws on the national and the state levels, the organizational bodies that deals with the implementation of agricultural laws at the national level are more, compared to the state levels, so which can actually increase the number of personnels that will actually come to those regions to implement the laws, as compare to the ones the states are running. The state are not going to have much personnel to enforce or make the farmers implement those laws, as compared to those in the national level, because even under the SSA of agriculture to the president, there are other fields under the SSA. But when you're talking about the SSA in Kwara state, SSA of agriculture in Kwara state, he/she has little to what she can actually contribute, because of the number of personnels she actually bring on board, as compared to the SSA of agriculture to the president.

I: Alright. Thank you. That brings me to the question on funding. So what funding resources do you think people get?

R: The major funding people get is the seed, seed funding. Instead of giving them cash, finance, they give them seed finding. So they give you seed, you plant, after harvest, you pay. So that are the things that most of those NGOs do, but few of which are not available, sorry most of which are not really available in our region. Most people them plant, and out of what they plant this year, keep a particular percentage for planting next year. So funding is very low in this side of the state. NGOs are funding a lot of agricultural projects but the road network to this place is a limitation to reaching these locations.

I: Ok. Thank you Sir. You said there are only seed funding, so I want to ask, how manages and distributes these seed funds?

R: That's the office of the commissioner for agric. I don't know maybe he is the minster for agric or the commissioner for agric, they have a office situated in Lafiagi, so those are the ones responsible for the distribution. So they are still government agencies. So any NGOs that is coming into Lafiagi, they go through that office, because there is no any NGO that is coming, if you don't understand their language, basically Nupe, there's no way you want to communicate.

I: Ok. Moving on, so what role does this funding or resources or lack of it play in effectively enforcing legal frameworks or climate policies?

R: There is little role it actually...like I said, few of them ready to receive draught tolerant seeds. So the best bet they have is to have a pilot farm. If there's a pilot farm where all these things are being practiced, seen by those farmers, then it improves the effectiveness of enforcing the climate change policies.

I: Hmm...are there specific areas where more financial support is needed?

R: Yes, because in Lafiagi now, one of the major issue they have, one of the major crops, in fact it's not one of, the major crops they have is rice, which covers about 90% of their farming, if not 95% of their farming, so they need ah...herbicides, they need a means of weed control, which may be a major factor...they need weed control, and as they plant year in year out, they need fertilizers most of the time. Because the moment they plant year in year out, the soil gets depleted. So they will have to replenish.

I: Moving on, talking about the effectiveness of these climate change policies, how effective are existing climate policies in Kwara state in protecting vulnerable communities?

R: Well in Kwara state, in general, because I've been to Barutin, I've been to Lafiagi, but most of the time, they don't really have much problem, they don't really what to protect them from. Because when we talk about climate change affecting those communities, there is no toxic waste in those regions, there are no man-made issues that need control, so the best way the government or the NGO can actually help them are looking for a way for those farmers to accept the seed that can tolerate draught.

I: So private sector compliance, more like what your company is. So how compliant is the private sector in Kwara state with environmental regulations?

R: Well, in Kwara state, they don't have choice. These government parastatals, come probably every month to check on the acceptability of all these laws, so we don't have choice so have to abide by what the government put in place as policies

I: So do you think there are challenges in the adherence to these laws?

R: Well, in as much as you're sitting a company that is for the general public, one of the factors that needs to be put in place is for you to know what is needed in terms of the adherence to the laws, so definitely there will not be any issue. I don't see, and I don't for see any issue in the adherence of those laws by the private sectors in Kwara state.

I: Speaking of local solutions and recommendations now, from what we've discussed, I will like to ask, what specific improvements would you suggest to enhance the effectiveness of

Kwara state climate policies in tackling climate change based on the challenges you've observed?

R: Reorientation, even if it's going to be every 6 months or if it's going to be every year, just to reorientate and let people know the side effect of a particular climate change. Ok of this happens, this is expected to happen. So if reorientation is done year in, year out, it will actually have much effect.

I: Ok. Ok. Thank you for that. Talking about capacity building in Kwara state, how would you rate Kwara state capacity to enforce climate change laws?

R: Well, they are trying to the best of their own ability. But I feel, it's a different thing for you to say, it's a different thing for you to accept, so they are trying their level best. There is a throw call for all these kind of climate, there is a flooding I'm emergency call for flooding, there's emergency call for fire, and all those things. So they are trying their own best, but the acceptability of the people what may be a barrier to these things. They are trying their possible best, but they people need to accept what the government is bringing.

I: Ok. Thank you. You mentioned something on reorientation, what improvement do you think are needed in terms of training and expertise, or interns of resources?

R: Well the things that are needed are basically um, is experience and more outside training to know the ongoing trend in agriculture. It's to be flexible, if it will take the government funding some of these personnels to travel abroad to be able to see these issues that are happening here and see how it's been tackled there, then these people come back and reorientate the people on ground, then from there the reorientation spreads from the later part, downwards to the final consumers.

I: Sorry, I think I omitted a question, how do these challenge differ from regions across, the challenges...

R: It differs because I've been to Kaduna, I've been to um Kwara state, I've been to the West, and from what I've heard, in the North...ok for example in Kwara state, we have a dual rainfall where we have an August break, there's a break in-between, so the rain is in two pattern, while in the North, it's a one pattern rainfall. And as it is a one pattern rainfall, the amount of rain cannot be compared to that of Kwara state, which means that the way there will be a flood in the North, you cannot compare it to Kwara state. As much as that, you cannot compare the flood in the South-South to that of Kwara state and the core North. So the climatic threats in each of these regions differ with respect to each of the climatic regions they have.

-END OF INTERVIEW-

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS (5)

NGO 1

Transcript number: 014

I: Interviewer

R: Respondent

I: So ma, we will commence the interview now. Ma, can you mention the main climate-related threats that you know in Kwara state?

R: Alright thank you, so climate-related threats in Kwara state, hmm...let me see, alright, we have flooding, and say draught, flooding and drought sha.

I: Alright, thank you ma. So are you aware, or do you know of climate-related legal frameworks about the threats you mentioned?

R: Legal frameworks as in?

I: I mean policies, do you know of any law or policies concerning the um, threats you mentioned?

R: Oh! Ok, I don't really know much about those laws and policies, but I know that there are some environmental regulations, ok, laws in Kwara state, like for flooding now, they use to say that people should not dump refuse in drainages, so as not to block waterways, and stuffs like that, so those are the laws I know of. Ok, and there are some regulations too for companies, so that they will stop polluting the atmosphere.

I: Alright, thank you ma. So in your opinion ma, how effective are these existing climate-related legal frameworks such as em Kwara State's climate policies and national laws in addressing the specific climate challenges faced by Kwara State?

R: Hmm...they are effective, they are quite effective, like the flooding regulations and instructions now, they are effective for communities that obey them.

I: Ok ma, in your opinion, what are the roles of existing climate-related legal frameworks in addressing the specific climate challenges faced by Kwara State?

R: Ehn...to combat all these climate threats now, to help manage the threats, reduce their occurrence and save lives and properties

I: Ok, so what are the key challenges that government agencies in Kwara State face in enforcing climate change-related laws, and how do these challenges differ from other regions in Nigeria?

R: The main challenge of government giving rules and regulations is people refusing to obey them, you know? And when they don't do as asked, they results that is em, aimed will not be seen. So people don't obey most of these laws, another thing is that the government agencies in charge of all these em, climate-stuffs don't really follow-up for the enforcement of these laws, they don't work to see that residents obey the stated laws.

I: Alright, so do you think these laws differ from other regions in Nigeria?

R: I don't think they are different o, not obey government rules and regulations do not affect a particular region. The only way there can be differences is if the climate em, em, threat is different across the various regions.

I: Ok. Speaking on the impact of climate laws on agriculture, what impact do you think climate change has had on em, agriculture?

R: Hmm...climate change has actually um quite a number of negative impacts of agriculture. You see, events like flooding wash away seeds, and therefore reduce harvests or let me say the final yields of the farmers, the climate nowadays can even cause diseases to livestock, and when there is no rain, ehn, drought, it will not allow the plants to grow well, which also reduce yields too. So climate change has actually impacted agriculture negatively.

I: Alright, so how have legal frameworks such as climate policies, agriculture policies and national policies aimed at climate change mitigation impacted Kwara State's agriculture sector, which is particularly vulnerable to climate change effects?

R: Hmm, the laws on agricultural sector now abi, ehn, it is like what it does generally, which is to help reduce the impact of these threats, such that people or farmers in this case, are able to get a reasonable amount of yield despite the poor climate.

I: Thank you. Now roles of local communities in law enforcement, that's the climate law enforcement now, how involved, are local communities in Kwara State in enforcing and monitoring climate laws? And what role do they play in climate adaptation efforts?

R: Ehn...well, as much as they know how to, they get involved. The local chiefs and heads abi, they help in their own little way to ensure the people under them abide by the stated rules. The one that I know is easiest for them is to ensure environmental sanitation on their minor roads and markets.

I: Ok ma, thank you. We are moving gradually, so how well do Kwara State's local climate policies align with national climate laws and international agreements? Are there any gaps in implementation at the state level?

R: Well, Kwara state cannot make laws on its own that won't align with national laws, you know, they are they subset, so I think the laws of the state, um, align with national and

international laws. It just that climate threats that we don't have here and that existing abroad, you know we may not have laws addressing it here, so that's just it.

I: Ok, so are there any gaps in implementation?

R: Ehn, since the state level is a smaller group, I want to believe that implementation here is more effective than at the national level. Internationally, it depends on individual countries.

I: Thank you so much ma for that. About funding, what funding resources do people get?

R: Funding resources, well, on issues like this, it's government that gives funding, and maybe additional from non-governmental agencies.

I: Alright, so who manages or distributes the funds?

R: Whoever renders the assistance or give the funding resources, so if it is from the government, the government agents will be in charge of distribution of the resources, and so on like that.

I: Alright, what role does funding, or the lack thereof, I mean or lack of funding, what role do they play in effectively enforcing climate-related legal frameworks in Kwara State? Are there specific areas where more financial support is needed?

R: Well, when there is money to finance laws, it will cause easy implementation of the laws now, for this climate policies now, funding will help to provide, and or procure whatever is needed to ensure that the effect of um, climate change is reduce. So when there is no money, you know, implementation will be difficult.

I: Thank you, so are there specific areas where funding is specially needed?

R: No o, I don't think there is any of such, everything needs funding.

I: Ok ma, so with your own rating or assessment now, how effective are existing legal frameworks policies in Kwara State in protecting vulnerable communities from the impacts of climate change?

R: Hmm...they are trying, I can't say the laws are totally or completely effective in helping such areas, but they are trying, 'cause the absence of the laws and regulations will be worst.

I: Ok ma, thank you. How compliant is the private sector in Kwara State with environmental and climate-related regulations?

R: Hmm...I won't say they are very very complaint like that. They are compliant to some extent, you know, who wants to be fined unnecessarily? But I won't say they have complete compliant to those laws or regulations that concern them

I: What challenges exist in ensuring their adherence to these laws?

R: Hmm...I can't say for sure, but laws and regulations that may affect the profiting of all these private companies, are you sure they will not find a way to go around it? So that's just it.

I: Alright ma, based on all what we have discussed, what specific improvements would you suggest to enhance the effectiveness of Kwara State's legal frameworks in tackling climate change, based on the challenges you've observed?

R: Hmm...I will say that they should make sure those laws are implementable in the local communities, and then, they should follow it up, so that those laws are not just um, beautiful on papers and not doing what it is actually designed for.

I: Ok ma, lastly, how would you rate Kwara State's government institutions' capacity to enforce climate change laws? What improvements are needed in terms of training, expertise, or resources?

R: Well, the state government is trying their best, the thing is just that they can always improve if they want to, in terms of training, training bring about improvements, s training of staffs will go a long way.

I: Thank you so much ma for you time, and for giving me audience. This concludes the interview ma.

-END OF INTERVIEW-

NGO 2

Transcript number: 016

I: Interviewer

R: Respondent

I: We are starting sir, what are the main climate-related threats in the Kwara State that you know of?

R: Well, some climate-related threats that we have Kwara include erratic rainfall, flooding, extreme heat and droughts.

I: Ok sir. Thank you so much. Do you know there are climate laws in Kwara state right?

R: Yes.

I: Ok. So In your opinion, how effective are the existing climate-related legal frameworks that is climate policies and national laws, in addressing the specific climate challenges faced by Kwara State?

R: To me, they're all effective, um, all those laws, concerning flooding and other threats are very effective

I: Ok sir. In your opinion, what are the roles of these existing climate-related legal frameworks in addressing the specific climate-related threats that we've mentioned?

R: Well...those laws are made to help mitigate the effects of climate change on people and the environment, they are to make people know their activities that can cause increase, or contribute to the action of climate change in their environment, you know when they state something that should not be done, people will know that doing it will surely cause harm, you get, so that's it.

I: Thank you sir, What do you think are the key challenges that government agencies in Kwara State face in enforcing climate change-related laws, and how do these challenges differ from other regions in Nigeria?

R: Ok, challenges that might be faced, ok, if the government do not have enough officials to monitor the local areas of the state, to ensure enforcement of their laws, then it can be challenging. Another challenge is em, money, finance, if there's no money do some things, make some constructions, then...

I: Alright. The next question is, ok, before the next question, do you think these challenges differ from other regions?

R: Em...no, I don't think so, they are the same everywhere, maybe on varying degrees o, but they are the same.

I: Alright sir, next question, impact of climate change on agriculture, what are the main impacts of climate change on agriculture?

R: Well, like when there is extreme heat now, crops easily dry up, same thing with when there is em, drought. And erosion, or flooding now, it can wash away farm produce. All these things now, they contribute to low quality of harvest, and low quantity of things to harvest, so you the impacts now, those people with livestock sef, their animals may quickly contract diseases, and for those that cut green grass to feed their animals, events, or threats like drought will affect them.

I: Ok, so how have legal frameworks such as climate policies, agriculture policies and national policies aimed at climate change mitigation impacted Kwara State's agriculture sector, which is particularly vulnerable to climate change effects?

R: Hmm...it has helped to some extent, the ministry, as in the ministry of agriculture sometimes help farmers to know the appropriate time to plant, such that it will not, like climate change will not affect them too much, although that is for communities that they are

able to reach, cause it is possible that they are not able to reach every area of the state. Obeying the laws will generally help to guide farmers on how they can mitigate the effect of climate change.

I: On the roles of local communities in law enforcement, how involved are local communities in Kwara State in enforcing and monitoring climate laws? Also, what role do they play in climate adaptation efforts?

R: Hmm...they are trying to the best of their knowledge, most of them may not fully grasp the whole em, concept of climate change but as much as they understand of flooding and other common phenomenon, they are helping to educate, and em instruct their people to obey the laws.

I: Ok, moving on, how well do Kwara State's local climate policies align with national climate laws and international agreements like the Climate Change Act, UNFCCC commitments? Are there any gaps in implementation at the state level?

R: I want to believe they align; yes they align, except in part that are tailored to fit into the system of the state, but you know it is from the national laws, the climate acts that the state laws are produced, so they align, and there is no gaps in their implementation.

I: Ok, thank you sir, I'll be asking you on funding now, what funding resources do people get?

R: Ehn, anything the government provides them, or that we NGOs supporting such course, anything we provide them. Sometimes it might just be money, and other times, we might add some relief materials. And the government I said, may be just the state government or the national or international bodies, through the state government.

I: Thank you, so who is in charge of management or distribution of these funds?

R: Whichever of the organizations that is providing it, the government or the NGOs

I: What role does funding, or the lack thereof, play in effectively enforcing climate-related legal frameworks in Kwara State? Are there specific areas where more financial support is needed?

R: I can't say there is a particular area of the program that needs special financial support, except if you are talking about affected regions, or let me say vulnerable regions. For the known vulnerable regions, more financial support is needed, also for areas that have been seriously affected, like flooded areas now, ehen, repairs might be necessary in some parts, so more funding might be needed. So you were asking what role funding plays, ehn to repair and minimize the effect of the problems caused by climate change threats.

I: Ok sir. How effective are existing legal frameworks or policies in Kwara State in protecting vulnerable communities like rural or flood-prone areas from the impacts of climate change?

R: Hmm...I won't say they are that effective o, I don't even think they are enforcing it so much like that, cause sometimes, it's as if there are no regulations, because enforcement is not so effective.

I: Do you think, thank your sir for that, do you think the private sector is compliant with environmental and climate-regulations, and do you think they encounter any challenge in adhering to the laws?

R: I think they are satisfactorily compliant, the companies and so on, they are compliant

I: Ok, what specific improvements would you suggest to enhance the effectiveness of Kwara State's legal frameworks in tackling climate change, based on the challenges you've observed?

R: Ok, they should work more on em enforcing the laws, and regulations that they've put in place, they should fine where they should, close down what they should, arrest if need be, they should just be serious with enforcing those laws, because you see, if they don't do that, people will evade the laws, and the impact of the climate threats will be more. Another thing is that finance, funding should be made available in every required area.

I: Ok sir, so as we round off, how would you rate Kwara State's government institutions' capacity to enforce climate change laws? What improvements are needed in terms of training, expertise, or resources?

R: They are trying, but they are not doing enough, they can do better, they can employ more agents if need be, they can train them and make them more aware of what they've been called to do and the result they are em, meant to achieve if need be, so there is room for improvement.

-END OF INTERVIEW-

NGO 3

Transcript number: 017

I: Interviewer

R: Respondent

I: We're starting now, what are the main climate-related threats in Kwara state?

R: Climate-related threats, there is flooding, dryness or drought

I: Ok, thank you. In your opinion, how effective are the existing climate-related legal frameworks such as Kwara State's climate policies and national laws in addressing the specific climate challenges faced by Kwara State, e.g., flooding, erratic rainfall etc?

R: I know of the regulations that concerns flooding, and I know the state is doing its best in enforcing those regulations, however, I don't em know about drought, I don't if there are regulations that concern drought. The one for flooding is effective

I: Ok sir, in your opinion, what are the roles of existing climate-related legal frameworks such as Kwara State's climate policies and national laws in addressing the specific climate challenges faced by Kwara State?

R: Well, to control the activities of people, and prevent them from creating an environment that em, contribute to climate change. For example now, it is advertised that people should not block water ways with their waste, you know, this is an instruction that helps to prevent flooding, so they help to monitor resident's activities.

I: Thank you sir, what are the key challenges that government agencies in Kwara State face in enforcing climate change-related laws? How do these challenges differ from other regions in Nigeria?

R: Disobedience to the law, most people are disobedient to the law, most especially in all these rural areas where we have people with low education, people do what is convenient for them, you know most of them are ignorant of the magnitude of havoc they are causing or will eventually be causing. Also, most government agents don't really visit those em rural areas to check their activities.

I: Ok sir, what are the main impacts of climate change on agriculture?

R: It largely causes food insecurity, you know in a situation whereby farmers are have low and poor quality of farm produce, due to the after effect of all these climate issues, food will eventually not be enough to feed the resident. It also causes food insecurity nationally too. It can cause malnutrition and the likes too.

I: Ok, so how have legal frameworks such as climate policies, agriculture policies and national policies aimed at climate change mitigation impacted Kwara State's agriculture sector, which is particularly vulnerable to climate change effects?

R: It informs the agriculturists, the farmers on the effects of climate change, the way they can prevent the effects, ways in which they can bypass all those natural, or climate events. Although, I can't say they have been much of help to the farmers

I: Alright sir. On the involvement of local communities, how involved are local communities in Kwara State in enforcing and monitoring climate laws? What role do they play in climate adaptation efforts?

R: They are really involved, they help to monitor waste disposal, environmental sanitation, especially to ensure that em waste are not poured into canals, and water ways. They also do jingles on radios, and so on to create awareness to the residents of communities.

I: Ok sir, about the coordination between state and federal policies, how well do Kwara State's local climate policies align with national climate laws and international agreements like the Climate Change Act, UNFCCC commitments? Are there any gaps in implementation at the state level?

R: You know it is all those national laws, em, em, climate change act that inspires the state laws, so they won't do anything different from the national laws. Both the national level and the state level work hand-in-hand to produce the laws and enforcement.

I: Alright sir, what so what funding resources do people get?

R: As realized by the government, resources that government release for the people through their various agencies and ministries.

I: Ok sir, then who manages/distributes those resources?

R: The government, their ministries

I: What role does funding or the lack of it play in effectively enforcing climate-related legal frameworks in Kwara State? Are there specific areas where more financial support is needed?

R: Funding helps the concerned agencies to em facilitate their work, reach communities for inspection, monitoring, etc. Funding helps to provide needed infrastructures, funding does a lot really in positively affecting the implementation of climate laws.

I: How effective are existing legal frameworks, frameworks or policies in Kwara State in protecting vulnerable communities from the impacts of climate change?

R: Hmm...well for communities that are adhering to those laws, the laws are helping them and are effective, it just that I don't know particularly the laws that concern drought but for laws that are stated, they are reasonably effective.

I: How compliant is the private sector in Kwara State with environmental and climate-related regulations? What challenges exist in ensuring their adherence to these laws?

R: Hmm...private sectors, they are compliant, as much as they can, the only thing is that some of them, like companies now, I don't think there is a way they can em, completely not cause environmental hazards, you know with their production processes and materials. So they are compliant to certain extent.

I: What specific improvements would you suggest to enhance the effectiveness of Kwara State's legal frameworks in tackling climate change, based on the challenges you've observed?

R: Recommendations...that the government should create more effective ways to enforce the laws, that they should train their staffs, that the government should create more awareness, because, you see, I feel that if people know more about this climate change issue, if they know that they can, and are likely contributing to the effect or let me say increasing impact of climate change, maybe it will be easier to mitigate and reduce the result, impacts of climate change.

I: How would you rate Kwara State's government institutions' capacity to enforce climate change laws? What improvements are needed in terms of training, expertise, or resources?

R: Well, as a state, they are trying, but they can do better.

I: Ok, thank you so much sir, for your time and responses, that's all for the interview.

-END OF INTERVIEW-

NGO 4

Transcript number: 018

I: Interviewer

R: Respondent

I: We are starting now sir. What are the main climate-related threats in Kwara state?

R: Ok, flooding, high temperature, drought, I think that's majorly it, so we experience a lot of flooding during the rainy season and drought during the dry season.

I: thank you sir, in your opinion, how effective are the existing climate-related legal frameworks such as Kwara State's climate policies and national laws in addressing the specific climate challenges faced by Kwara State?

R: Well, honestly, I must say the government is actually trying its best, but they can always do better, because, for instance now, the law that is mostly popular is dumping of refuse in canals, the regulation about not cutting trees, it's as if it's no longer popular again, like it is not being enforced like before, I will say the laws are not completely effective like that.

I: Thank you, so what would you say are the roles of existing climate-related legal frameworks such as Kwara State's climate policies and national laws in addressing the specific climate challenges faced by Kwara State?

R: They help to caution people, monitor their activities, to prevent those, I mean activities that can contribute to climate change, you know, not pouring wastes in waterways help to prevent flooding, so also having proper drainage systems, although, I don't really know the laws for drought, so I can't really talk about their effectiveness.

I: Ok sir, what are the key challenges that government agencies in Kwara State face in enforcing climate change-related laws? How do these challenges differ from other regions in Nigeria?

R: You see, most people don't even know the use of these laws, they don't understand that the things they do to evade the laws can have massive ripple effects in future, after all, the climate change we're all battling now is due to human harmful activities overtime, so I feel their lack of deep knowledge of these things make them disobey the regulations, and this is a major challenge. Also, not all the government agents are so much alive to their responsibilities of enforcing these laws too, so...

I: Alright, thank you sir, do you think climate laws differ from one region to another in Nigeria?

R: Hmm...yes, it is possible it varies from region to region, although, I won't say there's such distinctiveness o, I mean Kwara state laws are not entirely different, they just address what em the threats that pertains to their state.

I: Thank you sir, what are the main impacts of climate change on agriculture?

R: Unfortunately, these are a lot of negative effects of climate change on agriculture. At times of flooding, seeds, crops may be washed away, period of drought and the high temperature makes crops to dry up, so all these results in low yield for farmers, and most of them don't have a proper irrigation system.

I: Ok sir, so how have legal frameworks such as climate policies, agriculture policies and national policies aimed at climate change mitigation impacted Kwara State's agriculture sector, which is particularly vulnerable to climate change effects?

R: Hmm...you see the policies have not been thoroughly effective, like I said earlier, there are some policies that residents are not even aware of, even some that they know, they try to evade. That aside, there are places where farmers don't even get drought-resistant seeds, or proper irrigation systems, and the likes, so the policies are not as effective as they should be, especially as regards agricultural system.

I: Thank you, speaking of the involvement of local communities, how involved are local communities in Kwara State in enforcing and monitoring climate laws? What role do they play in climate adaptation efforts?

R: Ehn...it's true that the involvement of local communities is very much needed, the heads of local governments, towns and villages. I will say they are trying as much as they can, and they understand as it concerns climate change, most of the heads that get involved help to see to the enforcement of the state's climate regulation.

I: Thank you sir, so how well do you think Kwara State's local climate policies align with national climate laws and international agreements like the Climate Change Act, UNFCCC commitments? Are there any gaps in implementation at the state level?

R: Well, there are gaps, such as caused by lack of funding; the state can only work to the extent to which the available funds can allow them, so that's that. About the alignment of laws, I don't believe the the state government will em operate anything different from what is obtainable at the national and em international levels, so I don't consider, think that there is any gap in the sets of laws and policies.

I: Ok, so what funding resources do people get?

R: Em, most source of funding come from international organizations, NGOs, the national government through the state government, like that, like that.

I: Who manages/distributes those resources?

R: That will be the organization that provides the particular fund at that time, I mean each organization monitors it funds.

I: Thank you sir, what role does funding or the lack of it plays in effectively enforcing climate-related legal frameworks in Kwara State? Are there specific areas where more financial support is needed?

R: Well, you know funding is an essential part of any project implementation, it helps facilitate the implementation, necessary constructions can be made, needed equipment can be bought, you know, availability of funding make things easy, the same way, if there is no funding or, or, em, sufficient amount of it, much impact cannot be made.

I: Are there specific areas where more financial support is needed?

R: Well, every aspect of this topic needs funding, but if the government is able to provide more drought resistant seeds, sponsor transportation of their agents to rural areas to enforce these laws, amongst other things, I think there will be em significant improvement.

I: So how effective are existing legal frameworks, frameworks or policies in Kwara State in protecting vulnerable communities from the impacts of climate change?

R: Well, in areas where they are adhered to, I mean that they are obeyed; the laws and regulations are effective to some extent, although em vulnerable regions have not been completely protected.

I: Ok sir, now, how compliant is the private sector in Kwara State with environmental and climate-related regulations? What challenges exist in ensuring their adherence to these laws?

Hmm...well, not all of them are so very complaint like that, because you see, most of them in trying to manage or ensure that they have profit, they care less about the harm eventually cause to the environment. They are trying to comply o, it is just not enough still.

I: So what challenges exist in ensuring private sector adherence?

Well, the rate of enforcement is low, government officials can be more serious about the enforcement of these laws, and policies, such that some people who have eventually turned themselves to em law evaders will have no em, em, escape route.

I: Hmm, thank you sir, what specific improvements would you suggest to enhance the effectiveness of Kwara State's legal frameworks in tackling climate change, based on the challenges you've observed?

Ok, I will say they improve enforcement strategies, which should include em, reaching the rural dwellers, providing more funds for logistics, and so on, and so forth. Government should also work on making people to be more aware of the who climate change concept.

I: Ok, thank you, so how would you rate Kwara State's government institutions' capacity to enforce climate change laws? What improvements are needed in terms of training, expertise, or resources?

R: Hmm...they are trying, let's say averagely, at least they have the laws, only that they can surely do better. They can include training their staffs too, to ensure better results.

I: Thank you very much sir, this is where we draw the curtain.

-END OF INTERVIEW-

NGO 5

Transcript number: 015

I: Interviewer

R: Respondent

I: Ok sir, what are the main climate-related threats in Kwara State?

R: Ok, I will say the state is prone to flooding, drought, and erratic rainfall patterns, you know most of the times, these threats affect the farmers, the agricultural sector majorly sha, and the environment generally.

I: Ok. So In your opinion, how effective are the existing climate-related legal frameworks that are climate policies and national laws, in addressing the specific climate challenges faced by Kwara State?

R: Honestly, the thing is most of these laws are left on paper, enforcing and implementing them is a whole different story. There are some of the laws that are been advertised and enforced, like the government telling residents not to build on water ways. Not to dump refuse in drainages, and so on. There should be other laws that address the em, other em, climate threats but I can particularly state them now.

I: Alright sir, thank you sir, in your opinion, what are the roles of these existing climate-related legal frameworks in addressing the specific climate-related threats that we've mentioned?

R: The laws and policies help to make sure that the occurrence of climate-related threats reduces drastically, although the state is still on the way to achieving that, the policies are also there to protect the people, the residents of Kwara state in this case from the terrible effect of these em, threats. The laws generally help to ensure a safe environment.

I: Ok, to the next question, what do you think are the key challenges that government agencies in Kwara State face in enforcing climate change-related laws, and how do these challenges differ from other regions in Nigeria?

R: Hmm...what I see is that most people have heard of climate change, but they don't know much about it so much as to even relate it to all these em, occurrences that we listed, the threats. Like for example now, when people know that a particular area is prone to flood, is always flooded, do they know that it is due to climate change? Let's even say that they know about that one, what of the very hot weather? So people that are ignorant in this sense may em, may not take the laws seriously, so we have people not obeying the laws at all, or not obeying it completely. Some people are not even aware of the laws guiding these things, like that, like that.

I: Hmm...thank you so much sir, so, do you think the laws differ across regions in Nigeria?

R: Hmm..not so much, to an extent sha, you know national laws, and the international laws too, they like provide, they are like the main laws from which all these state laws and local government laws will stem from, so they are not totally different like that. Yes, let me just add that the scope that each category of laws may cover, I mean national, international, state laws, the scope they will cover will be different.

I: Thank you sir, moving on, impacts of climate change on agriculture, what are the main impacts of climate change on agriculture?

R: Hmm...on agriculture, let me first talk about this irregular or inconsistent rainfall pattern, like the one we had this year now, you know the serious heat would have dried the crops in the breaks that were between the rainy seasons, so these kind of this affect farmers. You know that too much heat too can affect livestock, like someone raring chickens like broilers now, too much heat can kill them, so the climate change effect on agriculture has been terrible.

I: So how have legal frameworks such as climate policies, agriculture policies and national policies aimed at climate change mitigation impacted Kwara State's agriculture sector, which is particularly vulnerable to climate change effects?

R: Thank you, so the legal framework of the state now, it helps restructure the agricultural sector, restructure in the sense that drought resistant seeds are provided for farmers, in some regions of the state, it provide some necessary climate information for farmers, like information like these now are provided through the agencies, the state agencies that are in charge of climate issues and environmental issues of the state.

I: On the roles of local communities in law enforcement, how involved are local communities in Kwara State in enforcing and monitoring climate laws? Also, what role do they play in climate adaptation efforts?

R: Well, you see our local communities play a very important role in law enforcement, cause they are the ones that make awareness more effective, they make compliance of the people easier, because em most of these people, especially those in the rural communities, they respect the words of their local heads more than what any government official has to say, so the roles of the local communities cannot be ignored.

I: Ok, moving on, how well do Kwara State's local climate policies align with national climate laws and international agreements like the Climate Change Act, UNFCCC commitments? Are there any gaps in implementation at the state level??

R: Kwara State's local climate policies align to a large extent with national climate laws and international agreements. The state government has incorporated national and international climate commitments into its policies and programs. Hmm...the gaps that I may say exist in the implementation is in the provision of funds, you know, capacity building, and stakeholder engagement, so not engaging the government agents but also the people that the laws will affect.

I: Thank you sir, on funding sir, what funding resources do people get in Kwara state?

R: There are various funding resources available, although most of the time, it is the government that provides funding, but we see non-governmental organizations, NGOs

funding climate projects too. Even there are times international agencies, organizations too fund these projects.

I: Thank you sir, I will like to ask, who manages or distributes these funds?

R: It is handled by the same organizations that provide the funds or resources.

I: Ok, so what role does funding, or the lack thereof, play in effectively enforcing climate-related legal frameworks in Kwara State? Are there specific areas where more financial support is needed?

R: Hmm...well, the role of funding cannot be overemphasized you know, funds are needed to provide relief materials for affected communities, like in the case of floods, funds are needed to build necessary structure for mitigation of all these climate threats, funds are needed for transportation of government agents who go for inspections, and general logistics, and so on and so forth, you see funds touch almost every area of the program, so funding is essential, so if there is no funding, hmm, let me just say such a program cannot exist, because the government will not be able to do anything. So I won't even say that there is a specific area that needs special funding, because the whole program is one, and and just as I've said earlier, funding is needed in all areas.

I: Alright sir. How effective are existing legal frameworks or policies in Kwara State in protecting vulnerable communities like rural or flood-prone areas from the impacts of climate change?

R: Hmm...I can say they are effective to a large extent, it is just that in areas where enforcement is lacking, the effectiveness will also be lacking, the reason awareness of the laws has to be serious, and also enforcement of it.

I: Um, thank your sir for that, do you think the private sector is compliant with environmental and climate-regulations, and do you think they encounter any challenge in adhering to the laws?

R: The private sector is compliant to the laws, especially the environmental laws, I will just advise that government agents monitor them to ensure full and sustained em compliance. Though there are still some of their activities, like the manufacturing companies now, there are some of their activities that still contribute to climate change, which they and the government have to take note of and curb as much as possible. I don't think they encounter too much challenge in adhering to the laws.

I: Thank you, we're almost done, what specific improvements would you suggest to enhance the effectiveness of Kwara State's legal frameworks in tackling climate change, based on the challenges you've observed?

R: Hmm...improvements, recommendations, I will say they first ensure proper enforcement of the law, without allowing for any loophole what so ever, the government should train their staffs, who should in turn increase awareness among residents, including rural dwellers.

I: Ok sir, so lastly, how would you rate Kwara State's government institutions' capacity to enforce climate change laws? What improvements are needed in terms of training, expertise, or resources?

R: The state is doing well actually, overall they are doing well, but they should just take note of the things, challenges I've highlighted, enforce the laws as needed, modify those that may seem unrealistic in the state, and ensure everyone, especially the farmers are protected as much as possible from the effect of em climate change.

I: Thank you sir for your time.

-END OF INTERVIEW-

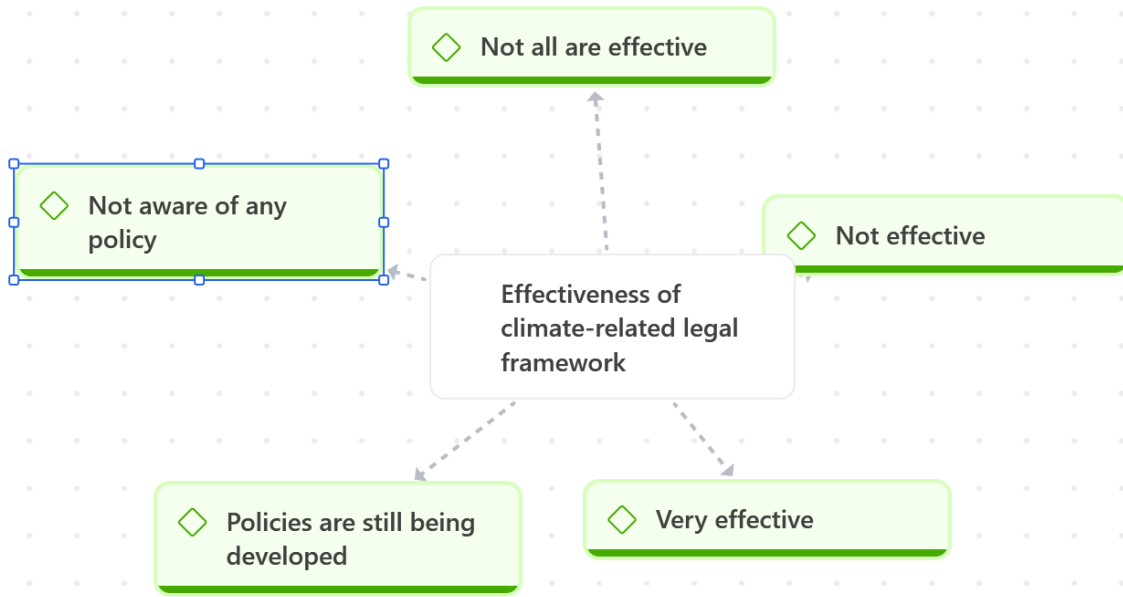


Figure 3: Effectiveness of Climate Change Law in Kwara State

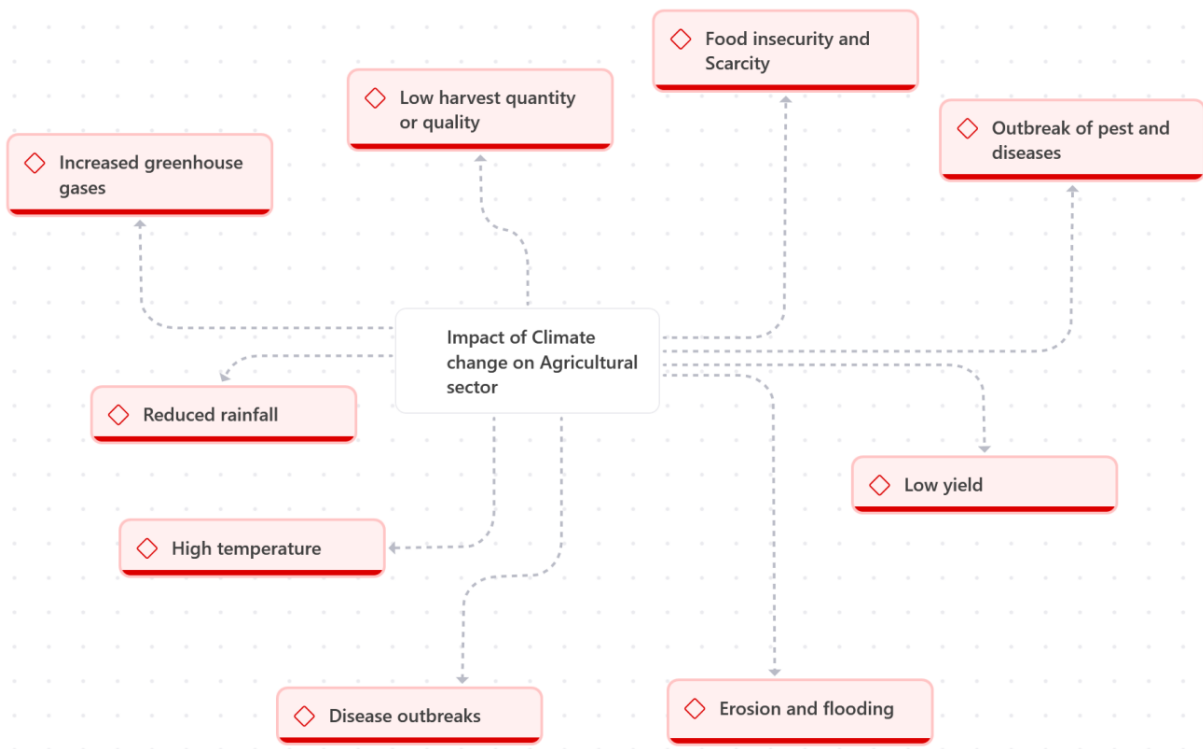


Figure 4: Impacts of Climate Change on Agriculture

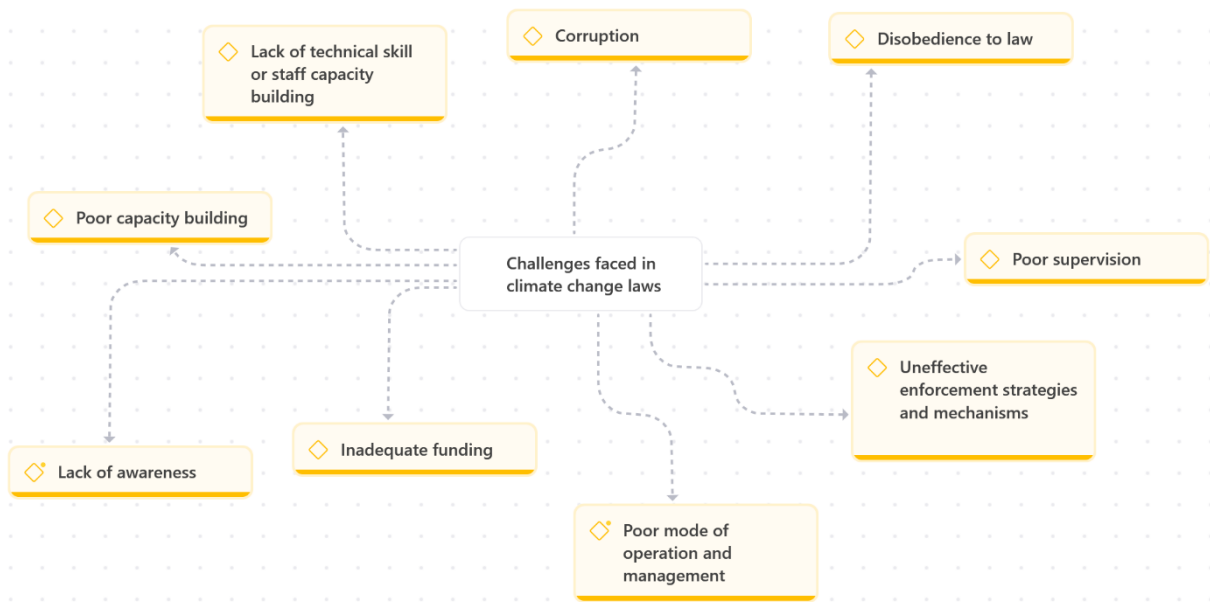


Figure 5: Challenges of Local Enforcement of Climate Laws

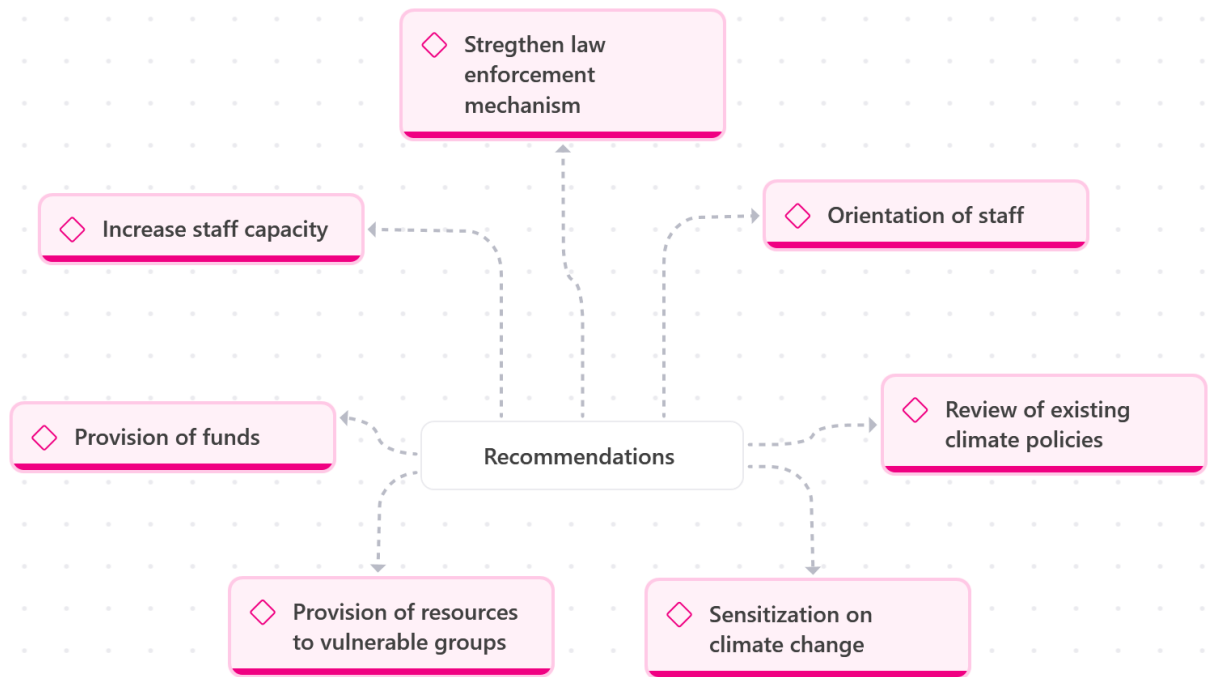


Figure 6: Interviewers' Recommendation on Climate Change Laws.

