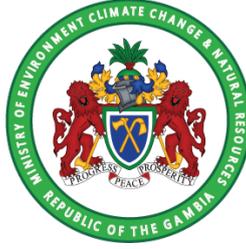




The  
Federal Government



West African Alliance  
on Carbon Markets  
and Climate Finance



## JOINT PRESS RELEASE

### The Gambia hosts West African countries to accelerate the operationalization of carbon markets

**Banjul, 17 March 2026** – The Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Natural Resources (MECCNAR), in partnership with the West African Alliance on Carbon Markets and Climate Finance (WAA), will host a high-level regional meeting and national workshop in Banjul from 23 to 25 March 2026 focused on advancing carbon market preparedness and implementing Article 6 of the Paris Agreement, which enables countries to cooperate through the transfer of emission reductions.

The meeting will bring together representatives from the sixteen West African member countries of the Alliance, alongside technical and institutional partners. Convened in the context of post-COP30 developments and growing global momentum around international carbon cooperation mechanisms. The meeting reflects a shared commitment among West African countries to strengthen regional coordination and position the region as a credible and proactive actor in global carbon markets.

The first two days will include a meeting of Alliance member states and a Steering Committee session. Discussions will focus on consolidating regional cooperation, assessing post-COP30 implications for member states and strengthening national institutional capacities.

Day three will be a national workshop with Gambian stakeholders focused on operationalizing Article 6. A key milestone will be the official launch of The Gambia's National Carbon Market Readiness Platform. The platform will provide a structured framework for engagement among public institutions, the private sector, civil society, and development partners, and support the establishment of a robust governance framework. Additionally, the last day will provide stakeholders with information on authorization procedures, corresponding adjustments, registry systems, benefit-sharing modalities, and reporting obligations to the UNFCCC.

## Official statements

Ousmane Fall SARR, the Coordinator of the West African Alliance stated:

“This meeting marks a strategic step toward credible, coordinated, and ambitious participation of West Africa in international carbon markets. We are moving from readiness to operationalization.”

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