

Adaptation measures for climate change scenarios in the agriculture and livestock sector

National audit abstract	
Country	Brazil
The Name of the Audit	Adaptation measures for climate change scenarios in the agriculture and livestock sector
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The national audit objectives

To verify to what extent the actions of the Federal Public Administration are promoting adaptation of the livestock and agriculture sector to climate change scenarios.

The scope of the audit

- The mapping of main vulnerabilities resulting from the identified risks in the agriculture and livestock area; adaptation actions for the agriculture and livestock sectors in response to the identified risks; and the establishment of appropriate systems of coordination, integration, governance, and accountability for those actions.
- Audit period covered or end date of audit process: 2008.
- Audited entities: Civil Cabinet of the Presidency, Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, Ministry of Science and Technology, Ministry of Agricultural Development, Brazilian Agricultural Research Corporation, National Institute of Meteorology, National Institute of Space Research, National Water Agency.

Conclusions of the audit findings and key recommendations

Climate change has significant impacts on activity and production in the agriculture sector. It also impacts food safety and the Brazilian balance of trade, and poses the risk of causing serious social problems.

The audit's main finding was deficiencies in the identification of climate change potential risks, mainly due to a lack of access to meteorological data. A large part of that data is still in printed form (books, notebooks, maps, etc.) and needs to be digitized. Also, the identification of the country's vulnerabilities due to climate change scenarios is affected, considering that the identification of risks is harmed by the adoption of less-detailed climate models. The sector's adaptation actions are still at an early stage and are insufficient to deal with problems that could come from climate change. The possible cause for this is the lack of clear instructions to agencies to consider climate change scenarios when planning and implementing public policies for agriculture and livestock. Furthermore, the National Plan on Climate Change does not set guidelines for adaptation actions in the sector.

There were also deficiencies in the coordination, integration, governance, and accountability of the governmental actions regarding climate change, particularly the lack of a more accurate definition of roles to be taken by public agencies and the overlapping activities of institutions.

The SAI recommended that

- guidelines be set regarding adaptation actions for the sector in the National Plan on Climate Change;
- measures be taken to make meteorological data available to research institutions, especially the one responsible for the development of regional climate models; and
- public managers be instructed to consider climate change scenarios when planning and implementing public policies for the sector.