



Concept Note

CAAFS Side Event on 'Advancing readiness to fastrack climate smart agriculture in Africa' during the UNFCCC SBSTA 40 meeting in Bonn, Germany

Date: 8th June 2014 **Time:** 13.15 – 14.45 **Venue:** Metro Room, Ministry of Transport

Theme: *To fast track early action on Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA), countries need to address readiness for CSA, transform their policies and strengthen institutions to ensure food security and enhance livelihoods of smallholder farmers.*

Background:

There are growing calls from leading agricultural science and policy institutions for 'climate-smart' agriculture – agriculture that sustainably increases productivity, enhances resilience to climate change, reduces emissions intensity from improvements in production, and enhances achievement of national food security and development goals. Given that 2014 is the Year of Agriculture and Food Security, it is critical for African countries to examine how far they have come in ensuring that they transform agriculture to harness opportunities for inclusive growth and sustainable development. In February 2014, the African Climate Policy Center, the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa and CCAFS held a regional workshop on [African agriculture in a changing climate: enhancing take uptake of climate smart agriculture](#). Delegates drawn from 21 African countries called on all African countries to create the relevant and necessary instruments for mainstreaming CSA through their National Agricultural Investment Programs; and mobilize financial, technical and human resources that will ensure effective implementation that benefits the small holder farmers. Although there is consensus on the need for climate smart agriculture there are still knowledge and technical gaps at the methodological, policy and financial levels. These gaps hinder the ability of actors of development (farm smallholders, policy makers and development agencies) to successfully implement climate smart agriculture actions.

Side Event Objective:

The event will discuss how to leverage policy, technical and financial support to scale-up the adoption of climate smart agriculture practices in defined farming systems in Africa. Participants will explore the role of science in informing the integration of CSA into national development policies and programmes.

The event is designed to answer five key questions:

1. What is the status of the integration of agriculture in the UNFCCC discussions and what are implications for CSA readiness in Africa?
2. What do we need to understand about climate change and variability in order to enhance the resilience of agriculture in Africa?
3. How can countries mainstream CSA within broader development goals? What structures (policy, financial, technical etc.) do African countries need to put in place to support the implementation of CSA?
4. How can farmers be mobilized to undertake CSA? What measures or channels are in place or should be introduced?
5. How can countries mobilize climate finance and encourage private investment for agriculture and rural development at all levels and scales?

Agenda

Topic	Presenter
Welcome and Introductions	James Kinyangi, Regional Program Leader, CCAFS
Opening remarks	Manyewu Mutamba, Economics and Policy Analyst, Southern African Confederation of Agricultural Unions
Status of Agriculture in the UNFCCC negotiations	Fred Kossam, Head of Climate Change Unit, Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Management, Malawi
Current status of the science of adaptation in African agriculture	Chinwe Ifejika Speranza, University of Bonn and United Nations University Institute for Environment and Human Security (UNU-EHS), Bonn, Germany
Mobilizing Africa's contribution to the emerging Global Alliance on Climate Smart Agriculture	Richard Muyungi, Vice-President's Office, United Republic of Tanzania, Former SBSTA Chair
Country CSA Readiness Frameworks	Gabrielle Kissinger, Lexeme Consultants
Reaching Millions of farmers with CSA in Africa; 5-6-7 NGO Network	Henry Neufeldt, Head Climate Change Unit, ICRAF
Outlook on funding mechanisms for investment in CSA in Africa	Evans Njewa, Lead Finance Negotiator for LDCs
Panel Discussion	George Wamukoya, COMESA
End of the Session – Networking continues during lunch	

Background reading

1. CTA, 2013. Climate-smart agriculture: Success Stories from Farming Communities around the world
http://cgspace.cgiar.org/bitstream/handle/10568/34042/Climate_smart_farming_successesWEB.pdf?sequence=5
2. Cooper PJM, Capiello S, Vermeulen SJ, Campbell BM, Zougmore R and Kinyangi J. 2013. Largescale implementation of adaptation and mitigation actions in agriculture. CCAFS Working Paper no. 50. CGIAR Research Program on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security (CCAFS).
3. FAO, 2013. Sourcebook on Climate Smart Agriculture –
<http://www.climatesmartagriculture.org/72610/en/>
4. Mitigation without adaptation can leave communities vulnerable – study –
<http://blog.cifor.org/18785/mitigation-without-adaptation-can-leave-communities-vulnerable-study/>
5. CCAFS, 2011. Policy Brief: Opportunities and Challenges for Climate-Smart Agriculture in Africa.
http://www.nda.agric.za/doiDev/topMenu/ClimateChange/PolicyBrief_OpportunitiesChallenges.pdf
6. FAO, 2014. Climate Smart Agriculture. <http://www.fao.org/climate-smart-agriculture/72610/en/>