



UPSCALING CLIMATE INFORMATION

South-South exchange for climate smart services – from Senegal to Latin America

In Senegal, a successful climate smart project is providing climate information to 7.4 million rural farmers using community radio and SMS. The project drew interest from the Colombia and Honduras Ministry of Agriculture and growers' associations who visited Senegal to learn more. Following these South-South exchanges, in 2016, the CGIAR Research Program on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security (CCAFS) worked with the Rice Growers' Association of Colombia and the Secretariat of Agriculture and Livestock in Honduras to design and implement climate services projects.

“ In Colombia, we helped establish two regional committees that coordinate between scientists and farmers. They check previous forecasts against data from weather stations and satellites, and visual observations by the local community and produce bulletins for the farmers. Colombia intends to scale up the program to reach about 500,000 farmers. In Honduras, we helped establish six similar committees around the country, providing tailored climate information on staple and commercial crops to more than 300,000 farmers.

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RESEARCH PROGRAM ON
Climate Change,
Agriculture and
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RAPID RESPONSE TO CROP AND LIVESTOCK DISEASE

CGIAR programs respond to emerging threats to crops and livestock with strategic research, tested solutions and roll-out to those most in need.

Caprine pleuro-pneumonia is a contagious transboundary disease threatening sheep and goats in Africa and Asia. Livestock & Fish developed a rapid, inexpensive field diagnostic tool which is a prerequisite to controlling the disease. The tool includes a simple read-out device, powered by a car battery and produces a diagnosis in less than 45 minutes. The next step is commercial development.

Wheat blast, a highly virulent and little understood infection, has long been confined to Latin America, but appeared for the first time in South Asia in 2016, damaging crops on some 15,000 ha in Bangladesh. The International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT) had already screened elite lines under natural blast infections for five years in Bolivia, and identified resistant sources. A related cultivar, Borlaug 100, was shown to perform well in Bangladesh, and seed is being multiplied.

Fall Armyworm, an insect pest, causes damage to more than 80 crop species in 14 countries in Sub-Saharan Africa, posing a significant threat to food security. An estimated 13.5 million tons of maize, valued at \$3 billion, are at risk in the region in 2017-2018 – the equivalent of more than 20% of its total production. CGIAR institutions, including CIMMYT and CIAT, have significant strengths in building the region's ability to respond to transboundary pathogens, and are contributing to a quick and coordinated response.