

GACSA Side Event during the CFS

Addressing Food Security in the Face of Climate Change: GACSA's Actions in the context of Climate-Smart Agriculture

15 October 2015

8.30-9.30, Red Room

Concept note

The side event will be held on 15 October 2015 from 08:30 to 09:00hrs during the week of the world Committee on Food Security (CFS) annual conference.

Objectives and Expected Outcomes

During the side event the three Action Groups of the Global Alliance for Climate Smart Agriculture (GACSA) will share and discuss their plans and activities.

Introduction to GACSA

The Global Alliance on Climate Smart Agriculture (GACSA) was launched during the UN Climate Summit held in 23 September in New York. There was broad agreement around the urgent need to address the nexus of climate change and agriculture, food security and nutrition.

The vision of the Alliance is to improve people's food security and nutrition in the face of climate change. The Alliance will help governments, farmers, scientists, businesses, and civil society, as well as regional unions and international organizations, to adjust agricultural, forestry and fisheries practices, food systems and social policies. Three action groups were established during the 3rd Global Conference on Agriculture, Food Security and Climate Change, South Africa, Dec 2013: Knowledge, Enabling Environment, and Investment. with specific and defined purposes. The Action Group (AGs) of the Global Alliance for Climate Smart Agriculture (GACSA) are groups consist of members of the Alliance and other interested stakeholders. The purpose of the Action groups is to support the identification of the objectives, key priority areas of work and early action of the alliance. They are encouraged to engage in regional and thematic programmes. The initial work of the Alliance focuses on three action areas: knowledge, investment and enabling environment.

The Knowledge Action Group focuses on increasing and promoting knowledge, research and development into technologies, practices, and policy approaches for climate-smart agriculture (CSA); the Investment Action Group aims to improve the effectiveness of public and private investments support CSA; and the Enabling Environment Action Group aims at integrating climate-smart agriculture into policy, strategies and planning at all levels and across landscapes.

The Enabling Environment action group (EEAG) will discuss progress with the country case studies in: Costa Rica, Ireland, France, Malawi, Tanzania and Viet Nam.

The Knowledge action group (KAG) will share key activities and outputs in the inception year along its priority work areas:

1. Technical interventions and practices in CSA
2. Evidence base of CSA
3. Support, services and extension for CSA
4. Inclusive knowledge systems for CSA
5. Integrated planning and monitoring for CSA

The results and expected outcomes of these activities will be shared.

The Investment action group (IAG) will discuss it plans on:

1. Mapping and sharing knowledge of current investments in climate smart agriculture;
2. Identifying new private and public investment opportunities that could support climate smart agriculture; and,
3. Developing metrics on climate smart agriculture that capture gender and nutrition aspects to guide existing public and private investment strategies and frameworks.

Tentative Programme (08:30 – 09:30)

Moderator: Andrew Achuo Enow, Coordinator, GACSA Facilitation Unit

08:30 - 08:35 Introduction and Opening (GACSA co-Chair)

08:35 - 08:41 Presentation by KAG – Anette Friis (CGIAR-CCAFS)

08:41- 08:47 Presentation by EEAG – Mark Manis (USDA)

08:47 – 08:53 Presentation by IAG – David Howlett (DFID)

08:53 – 09:23 Interactive panel-Questions

09:23 – 09:30 Wrap up and closing