

Let's make agriculture in Africa "climate-smart"



THE ISSUE



Africa will be the hardest hit by climate change. Its impact is already being felt. Because of the important connection between agriculture and climate, and the fact that the majority of the African population works in agriculture, it should be made "climate-smart".

A Climate-Smart Agriculture (CSA) approach includes:

- Sustainable increase of agricultural productivity
- Adaptation to climate change
- Reducing greenhouse gases and deforestation

African policy-makers are increasingly integrating a CSA approach into continental, regional and national policies. However, implementation of these policies faces several problems, including the fact that "climate change" and "agriculture" are still treated in isolation.

THE SOLUTION



1. Finding synergies across sectors:

Bridging gaps between climate and agriculture policies and financing. This way, governments and banks can offer incentives, especially for small-holder farmers and small and medium enterprises (SMEs) to invest in CSA.



2. Multi-stakeholder partnerships:

Involving all actors in CSA, from farmers to governments to businesses and ensuring frank public-private dialogue. Also, scaling-up CSA investments.



3. More coherence:

Agriculture needs to become a priority of the climate agenda at all levels. High-level frameworks, from global (like the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change) to continental (Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme, CAADP) as well as local practices: they all need to inform each other.

THE ADDED VALUE OF ECDPM'S FOOD SECURITY PROGRAMME

Linking and connecting...



CROSS-SECTOR:

Building bridges across different policy areas, like agriculture, trade, nutrition, climate...



CROSS-ACTOR:

Linking private to public sectors, farmers' organisations to policy-makers and donors to SMEs...



CROSS-LEVEL:

Connecting global (like the Sustainable Development Goals) to continental (the EU and the African Union) to regional frameworks (ECOWAS or COMESA)...

OUR TRACK-RECORD

1. POLICY-ORIENTED RESEARCH:

We have worked on how to make African agriculture "climate-smart" and how a stronger common agenda between Africa and Europe can help combat climate change more effectively.

2. FACILITATION OF MULTI-STAKEHOLDER DIALOGUES:

We organise and facilitate events that connect public and private sectors in relation to food security and climate change. See here some examples: www.ecdpm.org/events

3. KNOWLEDGE BROKERAGE:

We are experts in the field of EU-Africa relations, and produce blogs, infographics and videos explaining the key issues. Go to www.ecdpm.org/publications and www.ecdpm.org/multimedia to see our papers and multimedia publications.

OUR PROPOSAL

ECDPM will continue to work with African, European and other partners to contribute to finding solutions for a "climate-smart" agriculture in Africa.

If you wish to work with a trusted think-and-do-tank that follows a non-partisan methodology, building on extensive networks in Africa, Europe, and beyond, with 30 years of relevant experience, get in touch.

We can also join forces for fundraising to work together on projects that deliver results.

OUR PUBLICATIONS

"Africa and Europe combatting climate change: Towards a common agenda in 2015": www.ecdpm.org/dp177

"Making agriculture in Africa climate-smart: From continental policies to local practices": www.ecdpm.org/bn80

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