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THE GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE ALLIANCE PLUS INITIATIVE



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Questions, Answers and Comments from the EU GCCA+ Regional Workshop on Climate Change for Southern Africa and Indian Ocean Regions

[Climate Smart Agriculture](#)

Questions to Mohamed ALI Mlazahe, EUD Comoros

Q: La présentation des Comores indique l'introduction de nouvelles variétés. Comment est-elle équilibrée avec la conservation de la diversité génétique constituée des anciennes variétés? Sinon, une culture basée sur seulement les nouvelles variétés risque de devenir rapidement vulnérable (si la diversité génétique est réduite). Un commentaire à ce propos, merci.

A: Nouvelles variétés: c'est l'expérience pilote sur des sites précis. L'introduction vise à répondre à des facteurs de vulnérabilité face au CC...nouvelles maladies...sécheresse prolongée. Il ne s'agit pas d'éradiquer les variétés locales...celles qui peuvent être traitées pour améliorer leur potentialité...cas des bananiers pour assurer la subsistance des populations..On encourage pas les monocultures...on ne fait pas de manipulation génétique à notre niveau...On essaie de voir comment on peut répondre aux facteurs de vulnérabilité, répondre aux besoins de sécurité alimentaire et moyen de subsistance des paysans.

Agriculture intelligente est confrontée aux mêmes contraintes; le CC est une réalité que nous vivons tous les jours. On ne peut pas faire quelque chose...c'est à nous de changer de démarche et stratégie pour être en mesure de développer des bonnes capacités d'adaptation. Cela passe par un cadre d'analyse très large touchant les diverses configurations de vulnérabilité...promotion cadre politique et leadership institutionnel, cadre technique et technologique, cadre environnemental, cadre social, cadre économique...les solutions dans le domaine agricole ne sont pas automatiques dans l'agriculture..peut être dans d'autres secteurs puisque tout est lié...il y a une nécessité de changement de paradigme pour les vraies solutions...le CC est là..sera là...les contraintes sont pareilles et c'est à nous de s'adapter en prenant les bonnes décisions...on ne peut pas continuer à se plaindre mais à imaginer les meilleures options pour neutraliser/ détruire tous les facteurs de vulnérabilités

Comment: Initiative très intéressante que je soutiens à fonds.... mais je crois que comme a été indiqué dans le questionnaire initial l'agriculture intelligente face au CC souffre des mêmes contraintes de l'agriculture en générale dans les Pays en voie de développement (Madagascar dans mon cas) : manque d'un cadre politique et stratégique adéquate ; absence d'intrants de

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qualité, faible accès aux services de proximité (formation des paysans, financiers, accompagnement/coaching etc...), pénurie d'infrastructures (eau, énergie, route).

Questions to Bertrand Muller, coordinateur CIRAD

Q: What tools are used to reach out to the farmers? eg to disseminate research findings so that they can be used by the farmers. In Mauritius under the ongoing DESIRA Smart Agri project this is done via Extension offices via workshops etc. But it is not sufficient. We will be interested to know of any effective communications tools used (in Madagascar or elsewhere) to reach out effectively to the farmer communities.

A: the NGOs and FOs used different tools and approaches such as demonstration fields, fields visits, focus groups, meetings etc.. there is no "miracle method". For more details please visit: <https://www.dp-spad.org/actualites/journee-d-information-scientifique-du-11-fevrier-au-carlton>

Q: What are the tools and strategies can be deployed to how engage national governments for changing the vision and adopt agro-ecology?

A: We have no real solution. Our very detailed surveys provide evidence that situations are very constrained and that there are no other issues ... but Madagascar is confronted with so many problems that Government only thinks to produce more. It is more or less the same situation and political response worldwide. We still need more evidence and data about productivity allowed by agroecological practices - DINAAMICC (and other projects) will provide those data.

Comment from Tahina RAHARISON – GSDM- agroeconomist and expert on Agroécology): is complicated because it is not only the vision of national government but the way many stakeholders within specific sector and institutions also have a quite 'inward' frame of reference. For example, Madagascar is in line with the international framework of sustainable development, but because public action and implementation takes place in a silo, each sector has their own reference, organization, institution, actors network and political tools. For agricultural and rural development actions (Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries sector), for the Ministry and actors network, the main reference is the productivity and the green revolution. For the Ministry of environment and sustainable development, and actors, integrated the implementation on UN conventions (biodiversity, Climate change, desertification/land degradation), the dominant reference is about ecology actions and community action around protected area, and for the prime Minister and actors for food security/nutrition and resilience, actions are globally structured around the fight against poverty integrating social aspects. The dominant frameworks aim to address household and community vulnerability through more social and community-based emergency actions.

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So in my opinion, to change the vision, it should be through a national strategy integrating all concerned sectors. We have to show that Agroecology can be a solution for each sector problematic and can combine multi-criteria impact to deal with sustainability. It should show the whole aspect of sustainability. We still need more evidence and data not only about productivity but with more combined and sustainable effect.

Further information provided by Jeffrey Castellias, and Katrin Heeren, South Pole, on carbon farming:

Please find some relevant links here:

<https://www.southpole.com/blog/women-at-the-frontline-of-climate-crisis>

<https://www.southpole.com/blog/regenerative-agriculture-soil-capital>

<https://www.southpole.com/projects/sankofa-project>

<https://www.southpole.com/uploads/media/gis-remote-sensing-carbon-farming-initiative-projects-australia.pdf>

Q: Could climate smart agriculture practices be linked to carbon markets to encourage farmers and indeed national policy makers, to take CSA to scale across geographies and regions.

A: While the carbon finance can support to generate more income, additional financial schemes can help complementary, such as non-commercial impact funds - here as an example the Landscape Resilience Fund we developed together with WWF:

<https://www.southpole.com/clients/case-study-landscape-resilience-fund>

...which is supporting local SMEs (farmers etc.) with loans.

Comment from Conrad Aveling: In addition to the interesting example of the Zambezi valley project above (which uses management of fire herbivores to increase soil carbon) there is an interesting example of grazing management to capture soil carbon from Northern Kenya which is now generating significant revenues for Community Conservancies (just received credits for sequestering 1 m tons of CO² in the soil @ 8\$/ton) Northern Kenya Improved Grasslands ProjectHB - Native . And by the way the methodology used in Kenya was based on the methodologies for fire management initially developed in Australia

<https://native.eco/project/northern-kenya-improved-grasslands-project/>

Sustainable Cities

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Sustainable Cities

Questions to Dr Megan Euston-Brown, Sustainable Energy Africa:

Q: How do cities request support from SEA? Or are requests made by national governments?

A: It is fairly dynamic - our strategic priority is the larger cities, where we work collaboratively on topics through the Urban Energy Network we run with the local government association. As topics arise that require more attention, we then find the City partners who are most interested to work into that space. Partly it is also funding dependent - e.g. if programmes arise such as C40 or COM-SSA then the Cities are pre-selected as part of the global network membership.

Comment from ICLEI:

For more information on The Covenant of Mayors in Sub-Saharan Africa (CoMSSA), as mentioned by Dr Megan Spires, see: <https://africa.iclei.org/project/com-ssa/>
<https://comssa.org/>