



TERRAFRICA-SUPPORTED NEPAD COUNTRY FLAGSHIP PROGRAMME FOR CLIMATE CHANGE

Sustainable Land Management is Key to Climate Response in Africa

African countries have decided that Sustainable Land Management (SLM) is a key strategy for economic development, as well as climate adaptation and mitigation.¹

- SLM strategies and practices enable farmers in communities to adapt, as well as become more resilient, to climate change by increasing food production, conserving soil and water, enhancing food security and restoring productive natural resources.

- Farmers can also employ SLM to reduce GHG emissions, increase carbon sequestration, and maintain above-and below-ground carbon stocks at relatively low cost.

The challenge is to take action quickly, and at scale, to integrate the sustainable land management and climate response agendas.

The TerrAfrica Country Flagship Programme for Climate Change

The TerrAfrica platform supports the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) to scale up sustainable land management (SLM), by promoting and leveraging investments that raise agricultural productivity, secure water resources and reduce degradation of woodlands, croplands and rangelands. TerrAfrica works to assist countries to (i) expand the use of SLM technologies and approaches, (ii) improve enabling environments for SLM to take root (iii) manage climate risk and harness synergies between adaptation and mitigation and (iv) build long-term country programs. TerrAfrica has supported multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder platforms in 15 countries. It also supports strategic analytical work and tool development to inform country level investment programming. For instance, in Ethiopia and Ghana, analyses are completed on the costs and benefits of land management options, and Mali is creating a country specific SLM information system.²

To address the climate challenge, TerrAfrica launched, in September 2009, the Country Flagship Programme for Climate Change, Land and Water. It focuses on scaling up country-level, land-based climate adaptation and mitigation investments, through:

- **Conservation agriculture** including agroforestry, reduced tillage and integrated nutrient management and other land/soil based farming practices that build resilience to climate risks and accumulates soil and biomass carbon;
- **Watershed management** such as community forestry, riverbank stabilization and land use planning;
- **Energy poverty** such as biofuel development, woodlots and siltation control.

The Programme seeks to contribute to:

- *On-the-ground climate adaptation and mitigation benefits* including increased soil organic matter, higher yields, diversified livelihoods, more reliable water supplies, increased access to renewable energy resources and higher levels of biodiversity in agricultural landscapes; and
- *Knowledge dissemination and capacity building* at the country level about climate risk to land and natural resource dependent livelihoods and on the implementation of adaptation and mitigation strategies through SLM approaches.

¹ Sirte Declaration on Investing in Agriculture for Economic Growth and Food Security. Doc. Assembly/AU/12 (VIII). Assembly/AU/Decl. (xiii). Adopted by the Assembly of the African Union, 13th Ordinary Session, 1-3 July 2009, Sirte, Libya.

² The TerrAfrica Platform: Improving Land Quality to Sustain the Performance of African Economies. 2009. Washington, D.C: TerrAfrica.

Programme Activities

The TerrAfrica Flagship Programme includes two sets of activities: country flagship investments and country coalitions and knowledge-sharing.

Country flagship investments

Investments will build on existing country-driven SLM operations in the TerrAfrica joint work program. Priority investment options will be those that can be rapidly scaled up. Eligible activities include:

- Field-based participatory learning approaches, such as farmer field schools
- Innovative financing schemes, such as revolving credit funds and payments for ecosystem services
- Training for extension and other technical staff on participatory strategies for integrating land-based climate change adaptation and mitigation
- The development of input/output marketing systems for conservation agriculture
- Community-level training and action on agricultural landscape data gathering and analysis.

Financing

The Country Flagship Programme is financed by the TerrAfrica Leveraging Fund, a multi-donor trust fund of the TerrAfrica platform, to enable donors to channel grants directly to climate change activities. The program is designed to leverage the \$1 billion for sustainable land management already provided from the Strategic Investment Program for SLM in sub-Saharan Africa. For countries to be eligible for funding, they must already be engaged in country dialogues on climate adaptation

Country coalitions and knowledge sharing

The second element of the program seeks to deepen and disseminate knowledge on land and climate issues, strengthen country level planning, integrate climate risk into public land use policy and support country level capacity to implement climate investment programs. Possible activities include:

- Training programs on the three priority themes (conservation agriculture, watershed management, energy poverty)
- Peer-to-peer learning
- Development and dissemination of monitoring tools for GHGs and other ecosystem services
- Training seminars for policymakers on the linkages between food security, climate change and sustainable land management
- Targeted outreach to build awareness on the key role that SLM must play in addressing climate adaptation and mitigation.

and mitigation issues and have an interest in pursuing a programmatic approach to SLM, with investment operations in land and water management planned or underway.

In addition to its funding role, the TerrAfrica Flagship Programme advises NEPAD as it develops its climate change framework under the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP).

Get Involved in the TerrAfrica Country Flagship Programme

- **African country leaders working with TerrAfrica:** As you plan your national responses to climate change, consider how you can integrate this programme.
- **Donor countries:** Consider the TerrAfrica Country Flagship Programme as you plan your climate change investment strategies.
- **UNFCCC delegates:** Africa is organized to implement sustainable land management on a scale that could contribute significantly to climate change mitigation and adaptation. Let's make sure that climate agreements reflect this opportunity.

This brief was prepared by Ecoagriculture Partners, based on the Country Flagship Program for Climate Change, Land and Water Draft Program Document, prepared by the TerrAfrica Land and Climate Special Advisory Group (Ecoagriculture Partners, FAO, IFAD, NEPAD, NORAD, GM-UNCCD, ICRAF, Pelum Lesotho, UNCCD Secretariat, World Bank).

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