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March 25, 2015

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Global Alliance for Climate Smart Agriculture

Enabling Environment Action Group

(DRAFT) Inception Year Program of Work

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BACKGROUND

The Framework Document of the Global Alliance for Climate Smart Agriculture (GACSA) references an initial area of focus for the Action Group on Enabling Environments:

"15.3   Enabling environments: Integrating climate-smart agriculture into policy, strategies and planning at regional, national, and local levels and across landscapes. Objectives pertaining to enabling environments may include:

- Strengthening and enhancing public policy frameworks, for example through linking sustainable agriculture intensification with climate adaptation, resilience and disaster risk reduction efforts, and aiming to reduce emissions (including through reduced intensity of emissions) where possible – resulting from agriculture and land use change;
- Identification of adaptation measures, taking into account the diversity of the agricultural systems, indigenous knowledge systems and the differences in scale as well as possible co-benefits;
- Identification of agricultural practices and technologies to enhance productivity in a sustainable manner, food security and resilience;
- Incorporating climate-smart agriculture practices into agriculture extension and outreach services;
- Mainstreaming climate-smart agriculture practices into local, community-driven programs, national investment and food security plans, and policies for development assistance, including national adaptation plans of Action (NAP's); and
- Establishing policies that encourage responsible practices and investment along the value chain."

On March 11, 2015 at the GACSA Strategic Committee meeting in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates the process for developing the Action Groups' Program(s) of Work (PoW) was modified as follows:

- By March 25, 2015 each Action Group will submit to the Facilitation Unit a draft PoW for the remainder of the current inception year;
- These draft Programs will be posted on the GACSA website, with a deadline of April 13, 2015 for comment by any/all GACSA Members;
- By April 20, 2015, Action Groups will refine their PoW based on comments received;
- On or around May 15, 2015 the three Action Groups will meet to ensure consistency and complementarity between the PoWs.

ENABLING ENVIRONMENT ACTION GROUP PROGRAM OF WORK

Building on preliminary work carried out by FANRPAN and GFAR, the Enabling Environment Action Group (EEAG) will focus on a limited number of agreed outcomes/objectives relevant to regional, national, and local policy-making that can be reported on at the Annual Forum.

The group will assemble an inventory of relevant organizations with available resources dedicated toward the strengthening of enabling environments at regional, national, and local levels. The group will also seek to establish working relationships between the three Action Groups, as well as with appropriate international, regional, and sub-regional champions to advance climate smart agricultural adoption, especially among regional development banks and multilateral institutions.

In partnership with relevant regional and sub-regional organizations, the EEAG would seek to support at least one GACSA member country in each region to develop its own national "climate smart agriculture" plan or strategy, building upon any related agriculture, food security, or development strategy already in place.

This work will include a review of existing case studies that have addressed the integration of climate-smart agriculture into policy, strategies, and planning at national and local levels. The EEAG will select at least two case studies that showcase best practices and positive examples of climate smart policy adoption that highlight:
•	Strengthening and enhancement of public climate smart agriculture policy frameworks;
•	The diversity of agricultural practices and technologies that enhance adaptation, mitigation, and productivity;
•	Incorporation of climate-smart agriculture practices into agriculture extension and outreach services.

Case studies will be from Alliance member states, and will include more than one region.

The EEAG will work with the Knowledge and Investment Action Groups to add value to the selected case study(ies) by assessing and incorporating relevant considerations. Pending agreement in writing by an official of the relevant Member state, selected case study(ies) would be examined and discussed in detail during the GACSA Annual Forum, to generate discussion and debate regarding key issues, trade-offs, impediments, and other related considerations, including the enabling policy environment for that particular Member state.

The action group may also wish to pursue one or more of the following specific actions prior to the Annual Forum in 2016:

- Identify and post to the GACSA website recently developed tools and metrics for evaluating the strength of enabling environments. These may include, for example, World Bank CSA indicators, and the IISD-developed FIPAT and CRiSTAL.
- Evaluate existing national food security and/or climate plans for quality and quantity of CSA content.
- Identify and publicize on the GACSA portal promising and successful approaches to enabling policy environments for promotion of climate-smart food security.

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